PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—PRICE 8 ANNAS.

"THE INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETELY GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats, and Daks. Places of interest Inland and along the Coast, Postal and Telegraphic Information, etc., etc.
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
"Bombay Gazette" Press, Fort, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette.

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No. 51,625—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1899.

"JACK" BRAND— BRITISH— PILSENER.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE, WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
* SUTLEJ	4161	G. H. Weston	27th May.
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd June.
* CLYDE	4099	C. Denny	10th "
M.L. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	17th "
* SUTLEJ	4161	G. H. Weston	24th "
M.L. CALEDONIA	7556	E. Gordon	1st July.
* CLYDE	4099	C. Denny	8th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5227	W. Wheler	15th "
* SHANNON	4362	L. Wibmer	22nd "
M.L. EGYPT	7913	G. Langbourne	29th "
* CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	5th Aug.
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	12th "
* SHANNON	4362	L. M. Wibmer	19th "
M. L. SUTLEJ	4164	G. H. Weston	26th "

The steamers marked M.L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship here for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier at noon on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M. and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 23rd May, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on
IMPERATOR	L. Brelich	4,139	1st June 1899.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	C. Androvich	4,409	7th June 1899.
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	7th July 1899.
SILESIA	R. Mayer	5,000	7th Aug. 1899.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
Available for 12 months	" 1,060	" 625

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE transhipt at TRIESTE to another Company's steamer, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG-KONG, SHANGHAI, AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
MORAVIA		3,506	22nd June 1899.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent,
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Bombay, May, 23, 1899.

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued, allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

REDUCED RATES to Railway employes, Family Parties and Missionaries.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.

HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured.

LIFE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies issued.

CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.

SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied. CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

DEPOSITS received. Rate of interest on application.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.

Hand book of information free on application.

BOMBAY: 13, Esplanade Road.

CALCUTTA: Old Court House Street.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,

GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND via JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents: GRINDLAY & CO.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,695 tons, on the 26th May, at 2 p. m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR KURRACHEE AND COAST PORTS.

S. S. "PACHUMBA," 867 tons, on the 30th May, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "ASSYRIA," 1,495 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 25th May, calling at Kurrachee, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Bussrah, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "SIRDHANA," 2,729 tons, on or about 7th June, calling at Seychelles, Mombasa and Zanzibar in the foregoing or any order.

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 15th June.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "MERKARA," 3,099 tons, on or about 26th May.

FOR COCHIN AND RANGOON.

S. S. "CHILKA," 1,971 tons, on or about 27th May.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

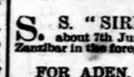
PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon, via Singapore for all ports adjacent to the various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

For further particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 25th May, 1899.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.



PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

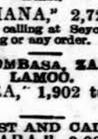
THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.



FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.
VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday, 12 NOON.
SALAZIE	4,255	Negre	6th June 1899
LAOS	6,357	Flandin	4th July 1899
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	1st Aug. 1899
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	29th Aug. 1899
ERNEST SIMONS	5,707	Le Coispellier	26th Sept. 1899
INDUS	6,357	Chevalier	24th Oct. 1899

Passengers are requested to ATTEND at the BALLARD PIER for the MEDICAL EXAMINATION at 10 A.M. All luggage, properly addressed and Labelled, should be sent to the Steamer in the Stream the day before, or early on the morning of the day of Sailing.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about,
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	31st May, 1899.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

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Old Oriental Bank Buildings, 57 Esplanade Road, Bombay.

EASTERN EXPRESS.

SPECIALLY organized for the conveyance of packages, between India and the United Kingdom at a through rate, inclusive of all charges except Insurance and duty.

Parcels, without limit of weight, are conveyed from Bombay or Karachi to any Railway Station in the United Kingdom at

6 annas per pound.

Parcels are conveyed to the Ports of London and Liverpool only at the rate of

3 annas per pound.

For large parcels and packages Messrs. LATHAM & Co. recommend their established and well-known

HOME EXPRESS,

as being the most economical and comprehensive mode of despatch. Full particulars of which will be furnished on application.

CARGO SHIPMENTS undertaken at especially reduced rates by Mail, Regular Lines, and Cargo Steamers, particulars of Sailing of which can be obtained from Messrs. Latham & Co.'s Monthly Shipping Circular, or by application.

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MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. have also completed arrangements enabling them to accept Parcels for transmission to New York at the rate of

Rs. 2 per cubic foot,

Inclusive of Freight and all Shipping Charges.

Particulars as to free delivery charges in New York and parcel rates to any interior town of the United States to be had on application.

LATHAM & Co.,
Shipping and Forwarding Agents.

BOMBAY:	KARACHI:
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Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by

GEO. W. WHEATLEY & CO.

TRUNKS, BAGS, PORTMANTEAUX.

TREACHER & CO., LD.,

Have on view a large Selection of all Articles required by Travellers and Tourists.

LEATHER TRUNKS,
STEEL AND CANVAS TRUNKS,
KIT BAGS AND GLADSTONE BAGS.
HOLD-ALLS AND VALISES.
BONNET AND HAT BOXES.

Also a Splendid Assortment of

FITTED DRESSING AND SUIT CASES.

COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED LISTS ON APPLICATION.

BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

BAHADUR CIGARS.

PAR EXCELLENCE THE LEADING BRAND

OF INDIAN CIGARS.

WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST AND CATALOGUE.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS AND PROPRIETORS,

McDOWELL AND CO., LD.,

MADRAS. LONDON.

GENUINE
HUSCHKE'S
COLOGNE WATER.
(LEADING BRAND SINCE 1842)

HAS been imported into THIS COUNTRY CONTINUALLY and in increasing quantities for the last 40 years. This fact proves that its excellent qualities are well understood and appreciated by the public. Imitations have reached this market and inferior brands have been put forward, bearing labels closely imitating the Genuine Huschke 3 Star Label. All such imitations will be prosecuted, and the public are requested to beware of them, and to see that the label on each bottle and box bears the 3 Stars in Blue, and on the back of the Label, as seen through the bottle, the inscription:

"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

RUSTOMJEE MANECKJEE & CO.,

18, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.

SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

LARGEST CYCLE STORE IN BOMBAY.

THIRTEEN MODELS OF THE BEST ENGLISH PRODUCTIONS TO SELECT FROM, RANGING IN PRICE

From RS. 250 to RS. 450.

PRICE LISTS, POST FREE.

THE "KANGAROO" ROADSTERS.

THE "KANGAROO" Types have been manufactured by the "Premier" Cycle Co., Ltd., to meet the demand for sound and reliable machines at PARTICULARLY LOW FIGURES. They are infinitely superior to anything else offered at the prices and are placed on the market with the fullest confidence.

THE "KANGAROO" GENT'S

Weldless Steel Tube Frame, 24in. from top of seat-tube to crank axle; 28in. wheels; Dunlop pneumatic Roadster Tyres; block chain; rubber brake and pedals; gear 66in. ..... Rs. 250
11 monthly instalments of ..... Rs. 25 each. 275

THE "KANGAROO" LADY'S.

Weldless Steel Tube Frame, 20in. from top of seat-tube to crank axle; Dunlop pneumatic tyres; block chain; leather gear case; rubber brake and pedals; invented handle-bar; gear 58½in. ..... Rs. 275
12 monthly instalments of ..... Rs. 25 each. 300

MARCKS & CO., LD., BOMBAY AND POONA.
SOLE AGENTS.
THE NEW PREMIER CYCLE CO., LD.,
ENGLAND.

NEW GOODS.

ALUMINIUM WARE	PHOTO FRAMES
WRITING CASES	ELECTRO-PLATED WARE
TOURIST CASES	TOILET REQUISITES
DRESSING CASES	OFFICE REQUISITES
DRESSING BAGS	JET ORNAMENTS
BOYS TRICYCLES	SPONGES
GLADSTONE BAGS	SILVER PENCIL CASES
LADIES FANS	GLASS CENTER PIECES
MONEY PURSES	ZELONITE GOODS
CIGARETTE CASES	ASSORTED GAMES
SILK UMBRELLAS	HOLD ALLS
STATUES	BIRD CAGES
JEWEL CASES	TOYS
ICE REFRIGERATORS	FISH ACQUARIUMS

BOLTON & COMPANY,

BOMBAY.

DANTRA'S CELEBRATED TEA.

IN 1, 5 and 10 lbs. AIR-TIGHT ROUND TIN BOXES.

	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a.
ROYAL ORANGE PEKOE ..... Per lb.	2 0 0	ORANGE PEKOE ..... Per lb.	1 0
ROSE ORANGE PEKOE ..... "	1 12 0	PEKOE ..... "	0 14
GOLDEN ORANGE PEKOE ..... "	1 8 0	PEKOE SOUCHONG ..... "	0 12
FLOWERY ORANGE PEKOE ..... "	1 4 0	SOUCHONG ..... "	0 10

Our 12 years standing in the Trade is a sufficient guarantee for the Genuine and Superior Quality and Moderate Prices of our Teas. Discount allowed to Messes, Clubs, Merchants and other large buyers.
All orders executed with care and promptitude. A trial earnestly solicited.

Established 1887. N. B. DANTRA & CO., Establishe I 1887.
TEA MERCHANTS,
33, CHURCH GATE STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSENGERS AND TOURISTS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. receive and store Surplus Baggage and re-ship the same.

Articles of Indian Art manufacture received and packed securely for transit.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. being directly represented at all the principal European, American, and Australian ports by thoroughly reliable Agents, all packages entrusted to their care will be expeditiously and economically cleared and despatched on arrival at destination.

If desired, passengers can be met on arrival by Messrs. LATHAM & Co.'s Agents.

BOMBAY,	KARACHI,
Esplanade Road.	Bunder Road.

BOMBAY FINE ART GALLERY.

D. B. DINSHAW & CO.,
OPPOSITE BOMBAY CLUB,
ESPLANADE ROAD.

Departments of Our Business.

I.—FINE ART WORKS: Engravings, Etchings, Photogravures, &c., of original Paintings of Celebrated Masters, both Ancient and Modern. Oil-paintings and Water-colour Drawings.

II.—PICTURE—FRAMING: Including Re-Silvering Old or Stained Mirrors, Re-gilding tarnished Gold Frames, Glass Decoration and Packing Work, undertaken to order.

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R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,
VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES,
Girgaum, and 223, Bellasis Road, Byculla.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (30,) and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	25
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

CRUSHED FOOD, OATS, BRAN, &c., Supplied.

INDISPENSABLE TO TOURISTS.

TWENTY-FOURTH EDITION.

MACLEAN'S
GUIDE TO BOMBAY
AND
BOMBAY DIRECTORY
FOR
1899.

WITH PORTRAIT OF
HER HIGHNESS MAHARANI JUMNABAI OF BARODA.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED
At the *BOMBAY GAZETTE* OFFICE
PRICE: Rs. 5; with Postage Rs. 5-4.

THE GUIDE AND DIRECTORY for the year 1899 contains much new and valuable information brought up to date, and details the progress made in the City during recent years. It contains

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PLAGUE EPIDEMIC.

In addition to recording the advance that has been made in the commerce and manufacturing industry of Bombay, the Guide gives a comprehensive account of the numerous charitable institutions of the different communities, and accurate and detailed descriptions of the public buildings of the City including those which have been completed during the year.

THE
BOMBAY DIRECTORY

Has been enlarged, verified, and carefully revised up to the day of going to Press. Special care has been taken that the local information shall meet the wants of commercial men and the general public.

BOMBAY GAZETTE OFFICES,
No. 18, ESPLANADE ROAD.

BUNGALOW

TO BE LET AT POONA.

A NICE BUNGALOW, for a Large Family with Stable and Out-Houses, with a Beautiful Garden around, situate at Connaught Road, Poona, well furnished.

Apply to

MUKHI CASSUMBHAI MOOSA,
Estate Manager to H. H. Sir Aga Khan,
Jail Road, Bombay.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THACKER & CO., LD.,
BOMBAY.

NEW BOOKS AND NEW NOVELS.

NOW READY :—

THE STATESMAN'S YEAR BOOK, 1899, Rs. 7-14.

BRASSEY'S NAVAL ANNUAL, Rs. 13-2.

CLOWES' NAVAL POCKET BOOK, Rs. 3-12.

UNDER THE AFRICAN SUN.

A Description of Native Races, Sporting Adventures, and other Experiences in Uganda. By W. J. Ansorge, M.D., late Seni or Professor at the Royal College of Mauritius, Chief Medical Officer to Her Majesty's Government in Uganda. With numerous Illustrations from Photographs by the Author and Coloured Plates, Rs. 18-6.

MEMOIRS OF SERGEANT BOURGOGNE, 1812-1813.

The Diary of a Sergeant in Napoleon's Old Guard during the Russian Campaign, Rs. 4-8.

"1812."—NAPOLEON I. IN RUSSIA. By Vassili Verestchagin, Rs. 4-8.

With 50 Illustrations from Sketches and Paintings by the Author, and an Introduction by Richard Whiteing. "Vivid in the extreme."—"Illustrated London News."

A NEW EDITION OF

WHYTE MELVILLE'S "SONGS & VERSES," Cloth Binding, Rs. 2-4.

There is the rattle of a gallop about Whyte-Melville's rhymes, movement in his metre and the dominance of an optimistic vitality. His ballads are strong in point of narrative and his lyrics have a touch of pathos that has long made them popular. This is a book of verse everybody can read."—"Illustrated London News."

THE ANCHOR LINE S. S. "BRITANNIA," has ARRIVED from GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL and DISCHARGES in the VICTORIA DOCK.

CONSIGNEES are requested to PRESENT THEIR BILLS of LADING for our COUNTERSIGNATURE, and to TAKE DELIVERY of their GOODS without delay.

Packages exceeding 30 cwts. in weight will be landed on the quay at the risk and expense of Consignees, unless Boats are sent alongside to take delivery without delay.

Consignees are hereby expressly notified that all claims for damage must be adjusted by the Steamer's Surveyor before the Goods are removed from the Landing Shed. The Undersigned decline all responsibilities in respect of Goods removed to the Unclaimed Warehouse. All claims must be presented before the sailing of the Steamer, otherwise, none will be entertained.

Captain CLARK will attend every morning to survey damages.

W. & A. GRAHAM & CO., Agents.

Graham's Buildings, Bombay, 24th May, 1899.

NOTICE.

AN AUCTION SALE will be held at the Town Custom House, THIS DAY, of UNCLAIMED and CONFISCATED GOODS, consisting of 213 Cases Brandy, 3 Casks Brandy, 1 Cask Whisky, Casks Extract of Oak, Cement, Alum, Gum, China Clay, Bars and Bundles Hoop Iron, Pears' Soap, Paint, Candles, Stationary, Iron and Earthern Ware Pipes, Needles, Planks, Jankrah thorns, shells, Galangal, Copal varnish, Plate and sheet Iron, Betelnuts, Plumbago Crucibles, Chimneys, Leather purses, Preserved provision, Ivory, Ironware, Periodicals, Advertising matter, Biles aval bark, Empty casks and cases, deck chairs, and various other articles, also unserviceable Dead stock and waste paper.

The sale will commence of 1 P.M. A deposit of 25 per cent. will be required to be paid when the lots are knocked down, and the goods must be cleared within one week from the day of sale, failing which the deposit will be forfeited.

Further conditions will be made known at the time of sale.

S. M. EDWARDES, For Collector of Customs and Opium.

Bombay Custom House, 25th May 1899.

P & O

FERGUSONS

P & O

WHISKY

P & O

B. SMYTH & CO., LD.

P & O

OF ALL DEALERS.

P & O

Rs. 2-8-0 A BOTTLE.

P & O

EVERY WHERE.

NOTICE.

ARMY AND NAVY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

AS ALREADY NOTIFIED the whole of the Society's business, with the exception of the Departments of Tailoring and Sadlery, which will remain in Church Gate Street for a short time longer, and excepting the General Manager's office, which also for the present will remain in Apollo Street; with these exceptions, all will open in the Society's new premises, at 10 a.m., on MONDAY, the 29th instant.

The Passenger and Agency Department will open with the rest in the new premises.

The sale of a very large number of drapery and tailoring remnants, out of season, and slightly damaged goods, as well as various other articles, at greatly reduced prices, will not, however, commence until THURSDAY, 1st June, when for three days, viz., THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd June, the Society's premises and the sale will be open to the Public generally, irrespective of membership.

This Sale will also continue till 6 p.m., on SATURDAY, the 3rd June.

WIESBADEN, GERMANY, PENSION VILLA FRANK, ABEGGSTRASSE 3

WELL FURNISHED ROOMS, excellent Table Baths, thermal and other, House stands on its own grounds. Within three minutes' walk of Kurhaus. Moderate Prices. Arrangements made with Families for Summer or Winter Season.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

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Immediate Settlement of Claims,
Liberal Surrender Values and
Unquestionable Security.

Particulars and Forms may be obtained from

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F. I. A, Manager and Actuary, BOMBAY.

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

ASSETS EXCEED ....Rs. 10,50,00,000
ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS...Rs. 1,87,50,000

This Old Established Society grants Polices with Capitalised Profits at the following LOW RATES of premiums:—

Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at Death only.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at Death, 20 limited payments.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at age 55 or Death if it occurs sooner.	
Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium.
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
25	143 1 0	25	197 8 0	25	198 7 0
30	156 6 0	30	209 8 0	30	232 10 0
35	173 11 0	35	224 10 0	35	289 0 0
40	195 9 0	40	242 15 0	40	384 15 0

Rates for other ages and under other systems will be supplied on application.

Intending insurers are invited to apply for the Society's new Prospectus before Assuring elsewhere.

Applications for Agencies from Gentlemen of influence throughout the country will receive every attention.

CHIEF AGENTS:—

CROFT, MODY & CO., 19, BANK STREET, BOMBAY.

CUMMOO JAFFER SULLEMAN'S BAZAAR.

FOR SALE.

ONE new English built half C. springs canoe LANDAU, with patent self-acting hood, suitable for a single or pair of horses.

One new English built C. under spring canoe LANDAU, with patent self-acting hood and with patent foot brake.

One new English built stylish light VICTORIA, suitable for a single horse.

English built second-hand LANDAUS, VICTORIAS and BROUGHAMS by well known makers.

HOUSES FURNISHED with latest style neat furniture.

Furniture of the latest designs FOR SALE or HIRE and also made TO ORDER.

Apply to

CUMMOO JAFFER SULLEMAN & Co.

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THE VOICE OF INDORE

LONG LIVE THE

EMPRESS!

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

OF THE DAY.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

24TH MAY, 1899.

P & O

PURE OLD

WHISKY.

NOTICE.

THE PUBLIC are informed that PROPERTY LOST in the Streets, Theatres, Public conveyances, &c. can often be RECOVERED on ENQUIRY at the Head Police Office, Esplanade.

Lost Dogs may also be recovered in the same way.

Application should be made in person with full description of property lost, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. any day but Saturday.

Property is sold every six months if not reclaimed within that time. Dogs not claimed within 3 days are sent to Pinjrapol or otherwise disposed of.

H. KENNEDY,
Commissioner of Police.

Police Commissioner's Office, Bombay, 23rd May, 1899.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

MESSRS. CHATOORBHOOJ MORARJEE and other Trustees proposed ERECTING KHIMJEE JEEWAS SANITARIUM for Battia Community at Walkeshwar and they invite Tenders for the erection of the said Sanitarium.

Plans, Specifications, Conditions of Contract and Schedule of quantities can be seen at Mr. BABAJEE GOPAL, Architect and Surveyor.

Tenders are to be deposited at Mr. Chatoorbhooj Morarjee, at Kalbadevi Road, at or before 1 P.M., on 30th May, 1899.

Trustees do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

BANK OF BOMBAY.
SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of THREE PER CENT. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

NOTICE is hereby given that RUSTOMJI CAWASJI PATELL has contracted TO SELL to my client the undermentioned property. Any person having any claim to the said property or any part thereof by way of sale, mortgage, charge, gift, trust inheritance possession, lease or otherwise howsoever is hereby required to make the same known in writing to the Undersigned at his office No. 44, Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, within 11 days from the date hereof otherwise the sale will be completed without regard to any such claim and the same will be considered as waived.

All that piece or parcel of land together with the messuage and dwelling houses standing thereon situate at Khetwady without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 1119 6-9 square yards or thereabouts, and registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under old Nos. 2197 and 3081, new No. 9358, old Survey No. 824-827, and new Survey No. 5563, and assessed by the Municipal Assessor and Collector under D Ward, No. 2078 (1) and 2078 (2), Street No. 96 and 2, and bounded on the North by the Khetwady Back Road, on the South by the property of Edulji Dorabji Saklatwalla, on the West by Khetwady 12th Lane, and on the East by Khetwady 11th Lane and which said premises are in the occupation of the vendor and his tenants.—Dated this 18 day of May, 1899.

FARDUNJI P. PAVRI,
Purchaser's Attorney.

J. RATILAL & CO.,
TOBACCONISTS,
BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.
SOLE AGENT IN INDIA, BURMAH AND CEYLON
FOR
LAMBERT AND BUTLER'S.
CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO SPECIALITIES.

TOBACCOS

Put up in ½ lb. Patent Air-tight Tins.

JESSAMINE.
LOG CABIN."
MAY BLOSSOM.
GOLDEN BIRDSEYE.
LILY OF THE VALLEY.
PRIZE MEDAL BIRDSEYE.
VIKING NAVY CUT (Full).
VIKING NAVY CUT (Medium).
FLAKED GOLD LEAF HONEY DEW.

CIGARETTES.

ESSAMINE. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 55 cigarettes, with a holder.

MAY BLOSSOM. Put up in air-tight tins, containing 50 cigarettes with a holder.

NEEDLE POINT. Each packet containing 10 cigarettes wrapped in foil with a nice picture.

AN ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE.
QUALITY AND CONDITION GUARANTEED.
Goods at any time found affected replaced at shortest notice.

All inquiries to be referred to

J. RATILAL & CO.,
Tobacconists,
BOMBAY.

BRANCH:
63, CANNING STREET, CALCUTTA.
HEAD OFFICE:
68, SHAIKH MEMON STREET, BOMBAY.

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half-Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p.c. 1 bon.	1,300
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1,210
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,130
Commercial Bank of India	10,000 / 15,000	100	100 / 75	8 p.c.	105
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£5	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£29½
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£57 1-2
National Bank of India	48,000	£25	£12½	8 pr. ct.	300
SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.				Halfyearly.	
Ahmedabad Adv	700	1,000	000	Nil	
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	...	40
Anglo-Indian	1,345	...	0	Nil	335
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.	618	1,000	1,000	80	39 / 1,000
Bellary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	871	60	al	9 per ct.	
Berar Manfg Co., Ld	2,750	550,000	200	Rs. 15	195
Bombay United	900	1,000	1,000	Nil	460
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	900	500	500	dvd Rs. 20	520
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld.	500	1,000	1,000	...	90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 5	425
Bombay Woollen Manfg. Co. Ltd.	650	1,000	1,000	10 per ct.	1,009
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvd Rs. 50	1,960xd
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 3	585
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,600	dvd Rs. 25	750xd
Coimbatore S. and W	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct.	125
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25	650xd
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	Rs. 10	440
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs. 25	575
Currimbhoy Mill	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 60	805
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvd Rs. 30	415
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvd Rs. 20	250
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	340
Empress	2,100	500	500	Nil 10	440
Framjee Petit	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	420
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	Nil	430
Hinganghat Mills	700	500	500	40	670
Howard and Bulloughs	1,500	500	500	25	625 / 470
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	30	1,275
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	.0	300
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Nil	650
Indian Manfg.	00	1,000	1 00	dvd 35	
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld	700	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 50	625 / 575
James Greaves	1,100	500	500	25	220
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvd Rs. 20	
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	Nil	165
Jewraj Balloo	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	650
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.	842	1,000	1,000	20	320
Khandeish	750	1,500	,000	dvd Rs. 30	805
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	400	250	250	65	00xd
Khatao Mackanjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 50	550
Leopold	2,300	100	103	dvd Rs. 5	200
Lord Reay Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	30	675
Lakmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 50	885
Madras United	350	1,000	1,000	dv Rs. 100	2,850
Mahaluxmee	690	1,000	1,000	Nil	200
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	15 pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,00	1,000	1,000	dvd 70	226½
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co. Ld., Amraoti	300	100	115	dvd Rs. 10	
Mazagon	6,000	250		dvd Rs. 5	90
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 60	1,750
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld.	4,000	250	250	dvd Rs. 15	
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	
National	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	275
Oriental	5,725	625	625	dvd Nil	140
Presidency Mills, Co. (Ld).	743	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 50	900
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	695
Ripon Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	830
Saraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	500
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 20	660
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 75	1,850
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	625
Southern India	1,000	500	500	Nil	210
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs 12½	310
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs. 15	280
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	15	201
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	600
Swadeshi Mills	2,000	500	500	dvd R. 22½	655
Sassoon and Alliance	5,000	500	5 0	dvd Rs. 20	310xd
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	,000	1,000	50	0
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 20	350
Venishunker Lukhmishunker C Mill Co. Ld.	900	500	900	dvd Rs 40	410xd
Victoria Mills	650	1,000	1,000	Nil	240
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 50	420
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co. Ld.	400	50	all	dvd R.	25
Wadia Mills	1,000	,000	1,000	s15	...
PRESS COMPANIES.				Yearly.	
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	75	1,195
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	45
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs 80	825
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	140
Showmugger City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton	1,000	125	125	Nil	10
Breule Cawnpore Press Co., Ld.	600	200	200	18	210
Broach City Press Co., Ld	600	200	200	dv Rs 12½	220
Colaba	500	1,880	1,880	dvd Rs 15	315
East India	350	1,000	1,000	125	1,275xd
English Press and Manfg.	400	200	...	dvd Rs 8	85
Fort	150	8,500	500	25+80	800
French	300	500	500	dvd Rs 40	510
Harvey and Sabapathy	450	450	500	dvd Rs 30	370
Hingoli Press Co., Ld.	700	100	100	Rs 15	160
Khangaum	240	450	450	Rs 60	510
Mahuva Press Co., Ld.	300	200	all	15 pr c	225
Mahmadpura Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld.	300	500	500	53	70
Mercantile	800	125	125	dvd Rs 5	67½
Mofussil Co.	125	400	400	dvd Rs 35	387½
Munmar M.	300	250	all	25	215
New Berar	00	600	300	dvd Rs 50	600
New Indian	00	125	125	Rs 15	175
Prince of Wales	130	500	0	20	350
Sabapathy (Bellary)	500	500	7	33	240x1
Sassoon	300	500	500	20	535
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	125	2,000xd
Sind	400	2,000	750	20	365
Sorab Woollen Mills	200	250	250	Nil	75
Surat City Press Co., Ld.	37	200	all	12	210
Volkart	...	000		Rs 75	1100
MISCELLANEOUS.				Halfyearly.	
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs 5	200
Back Bay Baths	500	50	50	13	35
Badham Pile	6,000	100	100	12 pr ct	150
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	,500	375	5,800
Do. New Issue	500	375	625	93¾	1,480
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld.	1,250	100	100	dvd 4	78
Bombay Land and Building Co. Ld.	50	500	500	5 pr. ct	500
Bombay Flour Mill	,000	500	500	5	900xd
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	500	5 pr ct.	207
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills	,500	2	200	dvd Rs 10	209
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ld.	2,·0	250	250	9 p 16	520
Empire of India Life A. Co., Ld.	2,	500	50	...	53
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn	5,000	00	10	10 pr. ct.	18
John Roberts & Co.	1,500	100	100	10 pr. ct.	180
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	21	365
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	3	13
Marcks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs 15	153
Napier Hotel Co	2,000	100	100	9 pr. ct.	25
Napier Foundry	1,000	100	200	...	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	5	12 pr. ct.	140
Phillips & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs 6	63
Port Canning Co.	6,000	000	1,000	dvd Rs	502½
Soundy & Co.	1,000	100	100	5	
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	500	0	1,080
Thacker & Co.	1,400	100	100	Rs. 15	
Telephone Co.	2,500	250	100	Rs. 1½	27xd

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 23m. Sun sets, 6h. 30m. High water, 11-29m., 11-7a. Low water, 4-51m., 5-25a. Municipal Standing Committee, 3-30 p.m.

POLO.—There will be a game, this evening, at 5-15.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Mauritius, via Tuticorin, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 7 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday next.

BURGLARY AND THEFT.—Ladha Dowji, residing at Hanuman Lane, reported to the police that during his absence from home, on the 21st instant, his house was broken into, and currency notes, ornaments, and cash of the value of Rs. 359, stolen.—Damodher Vithaldas also reported his loss of silk wearing apparel, of the value of Rs. 200, from his house in Kika Street on the 20th instant.

A WEDDING AT LANOWLI.—A correspondent states that Mr. Rujoo Babajee, contractor to Mr. Lukhmidas Khimjee, of Bombay, on the occasion of marriages in his family, fed and clothed hundreds of the poor of the station, and presented *sarees* and *cholees* to women, *dhoties* to men, and coats and caps to children. The Europeans of the station were treated to an evening party on the day of the marriages.

DEATH OF MR. JAMES J. FLYNN.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. James Joseph Flynn, custodian of the Bombay High Court for the last twelve years, which took place rather suddenly at the High Court, on Tuesday evening, in the thirty-eighth year of his age. The deceased gentleman was a son of the late Mr. Flynn, Chief Translator and Interpreter of the High Court, and had received a good education at home. He formerly belonged to the Sea Post Office, and held the office of custodian of the High Court for the last twelve years in addition to doing responsible work in the Prothonotary's department. Mr. Flynn had a knowledge of art in various branches, and he made suggestions for and was the means of carrying out a number of improvements in the court premises, to the successful working of which he devoted all his leisure time. He won the good opinions of all he came in contact with, and his death will be regretted by the members of the Bench and the Bar no less than by other branches of the profession and the general public who had business to transact in the High Court. Mr. Flynn apparently sacrificed his life in the zealous discharge of duty. Last week he was boiling a solution of perchloride of mercury for the purpose of destroying white ants in the record rooms of the court-house, when the solution overflowed into the fire, and he inhaled the fumes. This caused nausea and made him sick, and the next day he got high fever; and the united efforts of Drs. Dimmock, Lazar, and Ismail Jan Mahomed failed to save him. Mr. Flynn was a Corporal in the Bombay Volunteer Artillery, and the funeral, which took place yesterday afternoon, was a military one. He leaves behind a wife and three children to mourn his loss.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a. m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	1	0	3
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	13	2	12
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Kumbarwada	7	4	24
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Malaluxmi	1	2	7
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	2	1	26
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	0	0	9
G Mahim and Worli	2	0	9
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	5	18
Total	26	14	108
Total plague deaths to date	46,375	40,312	
Same date last year	17	5	81

THE NAGARKAR LIBRARY AT HUBLI.

THE first annual meeting of the Nagarkar Library, Hubli, was held on Sunday, at the institute, Rao Bahadur R. R. Gangoli, Sub-Judge, occupying the chair. The proceedings were opened by Mr. G. A. Hoskote who, in a few well chosen words, gave a brief account of the late Rao Saheb Raghvendrarao Nagarkar's life. Explaining shortly the aims and objects of the institute, the secretary was called upon to place before the meeting the report of the past year's work, which was formally adopted. It was remarked that the strain on the management was a little greater than anticipated owing to the epidemic raging fiercely in Hubli during the greater part of the season under report. But timely and liberal support having been received from charitable quarters at the instance of Mr. Shamrao Vithal Kaikini, pleader, High Court, Bombay, the institute showed a promising future. The attempt owes its success mainly to the support contributed at the outset by Mr. Narayen Rao A. Sirur, manager of the Southern Mahratta Mills, who has honoured the institute by becoming a life-member. The chairman explained at some length the manifold advantages, both literary and social, to be derived from the establishment of such institutes, and expressing his deep sympathy with the movement, appraising of the attempt as a model one, enlisted himself as a patron of the institute. With the usual vote of thanks to the chairman the proceedings were terminated.

ARRIVAL OF R. I. M. S. MINTO.

THE Royal Indian Marine steamer Minto, Commander C. R. Ford, arrived in harbour, yesterday, at noon, from Port Blair, which port she left on the 16th instant and called at Colombo on the 20th *en route*. She has come here for the usual repairs, and will remain in port for about three months. During the voyage she experienced strong S.-W. breeze, heavy sea and strong N.-E. current from Port Blair to Colombo, and thence moderate to light W. to S.-W. breeze to port. The Minto was doing station duty at the above port since 7th June last.

THE WEATHER.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

SIMLA, MAY 24.

WEDNESDAY: The barometer has risen over West Bengal, the North-West Provinces and the Punjab, and fallen elsewhere. Pressure remains lowest at the Punjab, but the trough of relatively low pressure across Northern India is being pushed southward again, and easterly winds are again over Bengal and the Gangetic Plain, over North Bombay, the central parts of the country and the Peninsula. Westerly and north-westerly wind blowing strongly in places, continues, while over the Bay pressure differences are large, and fresh southerly winds are blowing into Burma. At the head of the Bay there are signs of the development of a fresh small storm. The weather is cloudy except in parts of North-West India. Rain has fallen generally in Burma, and showers are reported from Bengal, Assam, North-West Provinces, the North-West Himalayas, the west of the Peninsula and part of the Central Provinces, the amounts being moderate at Tenasserim and East Bengal, and light elsewhere. Heat is greater than usual over North-West India, the coasts of the Peninsula, and parts of Assam and Burma, and generally lower than the average at other provinces. The highest maximum reported was 115 degrees at Jacobabad.

ANOTHER MURDER IN MADRAS.

ON Sunday, a man, named Kannee, was seated stitching in his house at Hoobbarapollam, when a batch of about twelve men, some of whom were in Mohurrum disguise, rushed into the house and beat him to death. The deceased, only a week ago, was attacked at midnight and beaten by some persons who bore him a grudge. He was then cut severely about the legs and had his injuries attended to at the General Hospital, which institution he was attending as an out-patient up to last Saturday. The police have made some arrests in connection with this murder, and Mr. H. M. Upshon, the Superintendent of the City Police, held an inquest this morning when Major Robertson, I. M. S., who had held a *post mortem* examination, was of opinion that death was due to a compound fracture of the skull. The body bore several marks of violence, indicating that a most brutal assault had been committed. The enquiry has been adjourned for further evidence.

THE TATA EDUCATIONAL SCHEME.

THE project for an Institute of Research for India, which may be said to have originated with Mr. Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee Tata of Bombay, says the "Civil and Military Gazette," and to which passing allusion has already been made, is deserving of more elaborate notice, if for no other reason, on account of its wide and far-reaching scope. At first sight, by reason of its ambitious aims, it seems visionary in several respects, and when it was unfolded to the Viceroy-designate at Bombay on the 2nd January, to judge from his comments, that aspect first struck his practical mind. The scheme makes provision for a Scientific and Technical Department, a Medical Department, and Philosophical and Educational Departments; the estimated initial outlay on these combined exceeding thirteen lakhs, and the annual expenditure being three lakhs. So far as we know, no part of the first sum is at present in hand or guaranteed. As to the second, Mr. Tata has offered property representing a capital of thirty lakhs, and calculated to yield a yearly income of Rs. 1,25,000, leaving Rs. 1,75,000 to be provided from other sources. The Provisional Local Committee, of which the Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University is chairman and which includes many of the leading men of Bombay, European and Native, informed Lord Curzon that they hoped, with this magnificent gift and "the help of the Government of India, the Native States and the public generally," to launch the big scheme. But it is a large order.

Even allowing that the Government of India can be convinced of the feasibility of the scheme, and of its imperial, as distinct from provincial or local, importance, they will probably not feel justified in contributing any very considerable sum towards initial outlay; and with the Viceroy's views on self-help and private enterprise before him, it may be safely said that the Financial Member will not open the State purse strings at all until he sees to what extent Native Chiefs and private persons are prepared to respond. As regards the Native States, if it were possible to rouse them to enthusiasm over this very excellent idea, the Institute would be practically accomplished. But as a damper on such an anticipation, we have the signal failure of His Highness the Maharana of Dholepur to collect funds for a Jubilee Health Institute for India, a proposal which would appeal more forcibly to native potentates. Native States have of late years been called upon to aid many projects, and it is unlikely that without pressure, which will certainly not be exercised or countenanced by Government, anything beyond ordinary public subscriptions will be obtained from this quarter. This brings us to the third source which is looked to for help. Will a general appeal for over thirteen lakhs for initial expenses, and a large sum to meet annual charges, for an Imperial Institute located in Bombay, or anywhere else for that matter meet with success? With every desire not to appear unsympathetic, we should say that the only chance lies in the discovery of one or two more "benevolent donors" of whom beyond doubt there are plenty in India.

As to the lines on which the scheme is framed, nothing but praise can be accorded to the scope of instruction which it is designed to impart. The work will be conducted on the principles followed now in Europe; for example, in the German "Seminaria," the French "Conferences," and the English and American Research Classes, the courses being the beginning of a purely specialist training. In order not to interfere with existing agencies, the new institution will take up the teaching where the colleges of the existing universities leave off—that is, the new courses will be post-graduate. A school of Sanitary Science and Practice for qualified medical men, a school of pedagogues for those intending to be higher secondary teachers, and a school for higher technical studies are some of the directions of development. It is also intended to select the best students for further training in Europe and America, with a view to their future return to India. The Scientific and Technical Department provides for instruction and research in Physics, including Mathematical Physics, and Electric Engineering, and in all branches of Chemistry, inorganic, organic, analytical, agricultural and technological applied to different arts and industries—a truly wide range. The Medical Department, which is the most promising and practical of the three, will deal with Bacteriology, Hygiene and Physiological and Pathological Chemistry. The subjects to be dealt with by the Philosophical and Education Department, regarding which Lord Curzon confessed he had some misgivings, are methods of education, ethics and psychology, Indian history and archæology, statistics and economics, and comparative philology. The founding of scholarships and fellowships, the construction of libraries, laboratories, and museums, the invitation of specialists, in addition to the permanent staff, will all require considerable additional outlay; and if funds are after all not forthcoming, one difficulty will be to decide which of the departments can be abandoned without detriment to the whole project. The organisators, of course, contemplate having to introduce the various subjects gradually, development depending on public support. Whether the whole project can, within reasonable time, be carried out, it is certainly in good hands, and no effort to attain full success will be spared.

BRUTUAL MURDER IN YOKOHAMA.

RECENTLY a woman named O-take, was cruelly murdered with an axe by her husband, a jinrikishaman, Sato Masata by name, aged 58, at her house in Nakamura, Ishikawa, Yokohama. It appears that they spent the night very peacefully, having retired at 11 o'clock. It was a rainy night and perhaps for that reason it was chosen by the man for his murderous purpose. At the hour mentioned he quietly got up and seizing an axe ordinarily used for cutting wood shattered the woman's skull with a heavy blow. Nevertheless she jumped up with a shriek and attempted to open the door, but it being locked, she fell on the spot. One of the neighbours, awakened by her shrieks, entered the house by breaking the doors accompanied by a brother of the murderer living near by. They found the dead body of the woman lying prostrate on the floor in a pool of blood, her husband bent over her with a hatched in his hands. The matter was at once reported to the nearest police box and the perpetrator was immediately arrested. In the meantime, Mr. Miyajima, a preliminary judge accompanied by clerk Okuda, Police-Inspector Hayashi, and a surgeon arrived at the spot and made investigation into the matter. It is stated that Masata, the murderer had been married to the woman for some 14 years, but lately the relations between the couple had not been satisfactory owing, according to the statement of the murderer, to the wife's objection to her daughter (now 21 years old) by a former husband, marrying the son of her husband as the latter desired. Sometime in August last, the husband proposed to register the girl as his daughter, preparatory to the marriage with his son but the wife strongly objected to the idea and a quarrel ensued; but the question was finally settled by sending the daughter to a young rikishaman in Suyeyoshicho as his wife. This was a disappointment to the husband and the wife alike, and soon afterward, the latter tried to bring her daughter back with the intention of putting her into a house of ill-fame. But seeing the impossibility of securing the consent of her husband, she resolved on killing him together with his son and spoke of the plan to others. The husband heard of it and being greatly incensed, determined to murder the woman beforehand. The murderer further stated that he had the intention of also murdering the daughter of his wife but he was arrested before he could do so.

THE NEWEST AMERICAN PLAN.

A VALET in the place of a maid is said to be the latest instance of man usurping woman's sphere. The usurpations reported are not yet numerous—only two, in fact—but they are spoken of with such enthusiasm—by the mistresses, not the supplanted maids—that other cases are extremely probable. One of these mistresses is said to be a New York bachelor woman, who recently returned from Europe leading as it were in triumph a young French peasant about twenty years old. He announced that he was her valet, and that he was worth two or three maids. The other woman, in an emergency, borrowed a Japanese valet from a friend of her husband's and found her new acquisition so great a comfort that she begged the accommodating friend to extend the loan indefinitely. With wonderful unselfishness he did so, and now the two valet possessors have so much to say in praise of the arrangement that it is safe to conclude that there are at least to happy women in New York. The experiment has not been tried long enough to wear off the gloss of novelty, it is true, but the experimenters are so enthusiastic that there would really seem to be something in it.

LADIES, WHY SUFFER?

As a Positive Cure for all Chronic and the most Intractible Female Complaints and Irregularities "Purni man vib" is Queen of the World. A powerful Uterine Tonic and Female Regulator for the Cure of all Female Complaints and Irregularities. Innumerable Females suffer in silence diseases peculiar to their sex. These need not suffer any more. Every dose effective. Worth its weight in gold. Price Rs. 3 and 5-8 per bottle (32 and 64 doses). Only from Lawrence and Lynch, Manufacturing Chemists, 6, Boyd Street, Calcutta.

BUDDHIST PRIESTS CHARGED WITH CHEATING.

AT Colombo, on May 20, two Buddhist priests, named Kuda Unanse and Puncha Yaddessa were accused of cheating Ran Naide and Dingiri Appu out of R100 each. According to the priest's story, as told in Court, Puncha Yaddessa and himself proposed a few months ago to make a trip to Burmah to worship as well as generally to enjoy themselves there, taking along with them a party of native dancers and others whereby to make the trip a remunerative one. Puncha Yaddessa undertook to arrange to get a suitable company together, it also being agreed that each person who volunteered to go was to bring sufficient money for the expenses of the journey, including R20 for the passage. They originally intended to leave for Burmah about two months ago but were obliged to postpone their departure from time to time owing to Puncha Yaddessa's inability to find suitable persons for the trip, who could also afford to pay the necessary expenses of it. Towards the end of last week, however, Puncha Yaddessa reported to the priest that he had procured seven dancers, who were ready and willing to go each bearing his own expenses, and it was agreed that the whole party should leave for Burmah by the "Cheshire" on the 16th instant, and Puncha Yaddessa and another started for Colombo on Saturday morning to make the necessary arrangements and buy the tickets for their passage. The priest and the seven others referred to followed to Colombo on Sunday morning. According to the priest, a few days before they left Kandy, Puncha Yaddessa informed him that Ran Naide and Dingiri Appu, two goldsmiths, had expressed a desire to join the party, each promising to bring R20, but as the others refused to have them in the party it was decided not to include them or to take their money. After they had got Colombo, as stated, it was decided that the priest should go on to Burmah with the seven persons who had accompanied him, and that Puncha Yaddessa was to return to Kandy and follow later with another lot of people. The latter accordingly returned to Kandy on Sunday; and the priest and the seven, who were to go, pooled their money, and the priest was elected treasurer and general manager of the party. Everything was in readiness for their departure, when suddenly on Monday morning the priest was arrested and removed to a police-station in Colombo. R60, the priest said, were found on him when arrested, but that money belonged to the party, and was at the station claimed by the seven persons some more and some less. Only R4 out of that sum was his own; and his passage too had been paid by the rest of the party. He never took R100 or anything, in fact, from either Ran Naide or Dingiri Appu, who were not admitted to the party.

THE COMPLAINANT'S STORY.

Ran Naide, the first complainant, said that Puncha Yaddessa had proposed to him to join a party going to Burmah. He (complainant) had been to London, and he thought he might pay a visit to Burmah, too, and therefore, expressed his willingness to go. He was asked to bring R100; he tried to knock it down to R60, but Puncha Yaddessa would not agree to take anything less than R130 as his contribution towards the expenses of the trip. On the 10th of this month the priest (he was in robes then) and Puncha Yaddessa came to his place at Madawalla, and he there paid the former R100 in the presence of certain people who happened to be there; and Dingiri Appu also paid his R100 to the priest at the same time, and they were both asked to come on Sunday (14th) to the priest's residence at the Aradana Maluwa, Kandy, to leave for Colombo *en route* for Burmah the following day. They went, but they found that the priest had already left for Colombo; they immediately informed the police, and the priest was arrested. R50 was found on him when so arrested in Colombo; the others who were of his party did not claim anything out of that sum; and they sailed for Burmah leaving the priest behind. He (complainant) claimed the R100 that he had been cheated out by the two accused.

The evidence of the man, Dingiri Appu, although to the same effect generally as the above, differed so much in respect of the places, dates,—for instance, while Ran Naide deposed to having both of them at the same time paid each his hundred rupees to the priest on the 10th, Dingiri Appu swore that they both paid that money on the 13th instant—and other important details, that the Magistrate dismissed the case and acquitted and discharged the two accused, ordering at the same time that the money seized on the priest should be returned to him, but that the robes should be kept.

THE NEW FRENCH WARSHIP "LA GLOIRE."

THE latest French battleship bids fair to be a remarkable craft both in protection and armament, not to mention appearance. This is quite unlike that of any vessel in our own, or indeed in any other navy, if we except that of France, to which she belongs. The great peculiarity which at once strikes the eye in looking at *La Gloire* is the remarkable interval between the two pairs of funnels, which themselves, by the way, are signalised by exceptional ugliness. The new cruiser, when complete, is to have a displacement of 10,014 tons, and will be just over 452 feet in length, with an extreme beam at the water-line of rather more than 65 feet. Her armour protection is remarkably complete. Her belt, which extends from the bow to just below the little electric light position close to the stern, has a maximum thickness of somewhat over 6 inches, though tapering towards the bow and still more aft, where it is closed by a thwartships bulkhead of 3·9 inches thickness. This belt is raised forward to just above the line of scuttles, and this higher portion extends aft as far as the after side of the foremost gun sponson, which itself, as well as the casemates aft, is plated with 4·7-inch armour. On the upper deck are six armoured turrets, the four centre ones of 4·7-inch armour, the other two plated with 7·8-inch steel. There is an armoured conning tower, the front of which is 7·8 inches thick, the rear portion 6·5 inches. The armament of *La Gloire* will consist of 2 7·6-inch guns—one in each of the foremost and aftermost turrets—8 6·4 inch quick firing guns—one in each of the four central turrets, the others in casemates—6 3·4-inch quick firing guns, and 24 light rapid firers, a total of 40 guns of various calibres. There are besides 2 under-water torpedo tubes. Like most modern French cruisers, *La Gloire* will have 3 propellers actuated by the same number of triple expansion engines, a total horse-power of 20,500 being estimated. She is designed to carry 970 tons of coal and 80 of petroleum in tanks, and this fuel will carry her a distance of 6,500 miles at the economical speed of 10 knots an hour, but at a pinch a considerable extra supply of coal can be stowed—enough, in fact, to increase her radius of action to 10,400 miles. Her complement of officers and men will be 562.

TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE FAR EAST.

AT the monthly dinner of the Article Club held at the Trocadero Restaurant on May 3, the subject for discussion was "Trade Relations with the Far East." Mr. Yerburgh, M. P., presided:—

The chairman, introducing the subject of debate, observed that the Government had achieved great successes in China. The trade interests of the British Empire were about sixty per cent. of the whole foreign trade of that country, and there was every reason to welcome its exploitation. The foreign trade of Japan came to 18s. 4d. per head of the population, and on the same basis we ought with China to do a foreign trade of 350,000,000*l*. a year, or half the total trade of the United Kingdom. Before that result could be achieved, however, the condition of the population of China must be improved through its Government. He welcomed the agreement with Russia as a triumph of a body of men who had been ridiculed as the "pigtail party."

Mr. Barrett, United States Minister to Siam, said that when he started at Singapore, and saw that wonderful colony, and travelled north by Hong Kong that still more wonderful colony, to our strong commercial position at Shanghai and on to Wei-hai-wei, he was driven to the conclusion that Great Britain, after all, was not the second-class Power sometimes described. (Laughter.) Going from Port Arthur to Wei-hai-wei, he should, if it were a toss-up, take the latter, as commanding the approaches to the north. He believed that the British nation had the greatest opportunities in the splendid Yang-tse Valley. With communication to Hong Kong, Canton, and Shanghai, we should occupy a position in the heart of China from which no other Power could oust us.

FLORILINE!—For the Teeth and Breath,—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth of tobacco smoke. "The Floriline," being composed of parts of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d. of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot, 33, Faringdon Road, London, England.

GAMBLING AT THE BACHELORS' CLUB.

THE one topic of conversation in the drawing-rooms and clubs of London is the card-playing controversy at the Bachelors' Club. That stronghold of gilded youth is literally a house dividedagainst itself. A rey forming minority of ninety-threemembers have called an extraordinary general meeting for the last Mondas in this month, to propose the adoption of a new rule namely, "That no game of cards shall be played in the club-house." The reasons put forward for this drastic measure are that when the Bachelors' Club was founded in 1881 one of the objects was to admit young men at an earlier age than other clubs (that is, eighteen), and that it was especially understood there should be no gambling in the club, and, as a consequence, no room has ever been set apart for playing cards. The pronouncement goes on to say that for many years there has been no card playing; but of late members have played cards in the billiard-room and this sweet sin has induced gambling and very late hours. These objectors maintain that it must be a case of "all or nothing," as, if cards are permitted high play and betting cannot be prevented.

Among the reformers are the Dukes of Atholl and Portland, the Earls of Effingham Listowel Orford Meath, Norbury, Normanton, Sondes, Verulam, Yarborough, and Romney. The newspaper world is represented by Lord Glenesk, and law by Mr. Edward Carson, M.P.

The valiant 93 have a powerful opposition to reckon with. A rival circular has appeared, signed by 119 members, setting forth in forcible but dignified terms their opinion that the proposed rule for the abolition of all card playing is a very severe measures and would be a gross infringement of the privileges of members. They propose that members should be provided with a card-room, the only games allowed being bridge, whist, piquet, bezique, and cribbage, the stakes and points to be decided by the committee. The opinions expressed by the supporters of this circular are that the Bachelors' Club is not an infant school, and that even were the rule of "No card playing" enforced, billards would still go on, and are by no means inconsistent with high betting. Among the names appended to this circular are those of the Dukes of Devonshire and Roxburgh, Viscount Milton, M.P. Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Lord Settrington, Viscount Stavordale, Hon. Humphrey Sturt M.P., and many other well-known men. Lord Carew's name, strange to say, appears on both lists. The whole question is exciting the wildest interest.—*M. A. P.*

A YORKSHIRE GHOST STORY.

BURTON AGNES HALL, near Hull, the country seat of Sir Henry Somerville Boynton, who has died recently has an extraordinary ghost story attached to it. In the time of Elizabeth the hall and estates became vested in three sisters, co-heiresses, who determined to have erected for themselves and their descendants the present mansion, to replace the older building.

The younger of the three sisters, who had taken a special interest in the erection of the new house, was brutally maltreated by some ruffians when paying a visit to Harpham Hall, the residence of Lady St Quentin, and died very shortly after. Before her death she made her sisters promise that her head should be removed from her body and preserved within the hall, to remain there for ever.

She also left a weird message to future owners of the house, that if they disobeyed these injunctions she would render the place uninhabitable. Her sisters, who had only made the promise to pacify her had the body interred in the church without decapitation. A very short time afterwards such terrible disturbances took place in Boynton-Agnes Hall that the servants refused to remain in it, and it became, in truth, impossible to live there. The two sisters then consulted with the vicar of the parish, and had the coffin opened.

It was then found that the head was severed from the body and rapidly assuming the appearance of a fleshless skull. The skull was duly taken to the house, and placed on a table in the hall, where, with the exception of very short periods, it has remained ever since. On one occasion a maidservant secretly threw it from a window on to a waggon, which remained immovable, until, terror-struck with what she had done the girl confessed, and the skull was restored to its place. At another time the Boynton of the day, ignoring or disbelieving the story, caused the skull to be buried in the garden. The result was that dreadful wailings and numerous unexplained crashing were heard about the hall, and only ceased when the skull was reinstated.

EXTENSIVE FORGERIES IN JAPAN.

A YOUNG man maned Suzuki Yeiji, and an employe Seitaro by name, aged 19 were arrested at the former's residence in Takajo-machi, Nichome, Shidzuoka, a few days ago, on a charge of printing and making use of forged paper notes. It is stated that Suzuki who declares himself to be a physician and a graduate of the Imperial University, removed from Tokyo to Shidzuoka, sometime in February last and lived in the latter place with his wife and the young man, who was formerly employed in a printing office in Tokyo. Yeiji, assisted by the young printer, was busily engaged in manufacturing Y5 notes with a printing press set up in one of the rooms, and continued these operations till the 5th inst., when he and his accomplice were arrested. He is a graduate of the Meiji Law School, Tokyo, and was employed as a clerk for some time in a Post Office in Formosa. But the petty amount of Y30 which he used to receive in the latter capacity, was not sufficient to satisfy the ambitious young man, who resolved to embark upon a new and more profitable undertaking in conjunction with an official of the Formosan Administrative Bureau, whom he sent Y2000 worth of forged notes before his arrest. A man named Tsukinaga Naotaro who was in possession of 300 forged Y5 notes was also arrested as an accomplice together with a brother of Yeiji, who was formerly a revenue official of Shidzuoka Prefecture.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 23rd May.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 dex. Fah. ... inches	29·743
Temperature of the Air ... degrees	86·7
Wet Bulb Thermometer	78·3
Dew Point	76·2
Relative humidity of Air	·712
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded = 10)	2·6
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day ... degrees	91·4
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	82·8
General Directions of wind*	WSW, W, WSW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours* ... miles	292

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—MAY 23.

10 p.m.	84·3

WEDNESDAY.—MAY 24.

6 a.m.	83·3
10 a.m.	87·4
2 p.m.	89·0
4 p.m.	88·7

FOREIGN TELEGRAM REPORTS.

Latest dates of foreign messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m. of the 24th May 1899.

[Difference in Longitude allowed for.]

Via	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	23	11	...p.m.	16	58
Teheran	24	2	36 p.m.	...	12
Suez	24	2	55 p.m.	...	9

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m. of 24th May, 1899.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	26	...	9
" Karachi	...	28	...	1
" Madras	...	31	...	1

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

FOR health, beauty, and luxury, use the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, which Lady Constance Howard writes, is "pleasant to use, and whitens and softens the Skin." Also Testimonials from Countess Cathurst, Countess Clanwilliam, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill, and many others. Delicately perfumed Warning; When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, see that name and figure-head of "Albion" are on the wrapper Sold by all Chemists, Grocers, &c.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS?—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as bright as a button. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s., 1-2d. per bottle

NOTICE.

TENDERS are invited for the LEASE of the several GOVERNMENT SALT WORKS, mentioned below, situated in the MATUNGA SALT TALUKA, together with the right to manufacture salt therein.

(1) for two years and
(2) for five years
from the 1st August 1899, viz :—
1. Solemansha.
2. Shaik Misri.
3. Rowli.
4. Vadala.
5. Siwri.

2. They should be addressed to the Deputy Collector of Salt Revenue, S. D., sealed and superscribed with the words "Tender for the lease of Government Salt Works at Matunga," and should be delivered at the office of the Deputy Collector of Salt Revenue S. D., on or before Monday the 26th June next.

3. Each tender must be accompanied by a deposit of Rs. 500 as a guarantee of the good faith of the tenderer.

4. Tenders will be opened by the Deputy Collector of Salt Revenue S. D., at noon, on the 26th June next, in the presence of any of the tenderers who may attend, and their final disposal will rest with Government who do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any other tender.

5. Persons whose offers may be accepted will be required, within seven days after receipt of notice of acceptance of their tenders, to execute Leases in the usual form, copy of which may be seen at any time during office hours on application to the Chief Account Officer, Town Custom House, Bombay, or at the office of the Deputy Collector of Salt Revenue, S. D. They will also be required within the same period to deposit 25 per cent. of the amounts of their tenders, which deposits will be held by the Collector as security for the due fulfilment of the terms of their agreements. In the event of any person whose tender may be accepted failing to execute the lease or to make the deposit aforesaid within the period specified, the sum of Rs. 500 deposited by such defaulter at the time of delivering his tender will be forfeited to Government.

6. The Lessee or Lessees of the works will have to pay Municipal Rates leviable on the properties under Act III of 1888, or any other Act or Acts in force.

H. P. QUIN,
Ag. Collector of Salt Revenue.

Camp Castle Rock, 22nd May, 1899.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.
NOTICE.

WITH reference to the intimation given on the 5th May 1899, that public messages would not be received at the Stations of this Railway, notice is hereby given that on and after the 25th instant public messages will again be received and despatched as usual.

A. MUIRHEAD,
General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, 24th May, 1899.

THE
BLUTHNER PIANOFORTES,
GRAND AND UPRIGHT.
THE MOST PERFECT PIANOFORTES IN THE WORLD.
HERR MORIZ ROSENTHAL
Who has for many years used only the BLUTHNER PIANOFORTES, writes as follows :—

"It affords me the greatest pleasure to testify that the GRAND PIANOFORTES manufactured by JULIUS BLUTHNER more than justify their world-wide reputation. They combine the most pure and refined tone with enormous power; and every gradation of tone, from the most ethereal pianissimo to the loudest fortissimo, can be perfectly produced by them. In short, their touch and repetition are so perfect as to enable the artist to produce the most beautiful effects."

MARCKS AND CO., LD.,
SOLE AGENTS,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

KING, KING & Co.,
BOMBAY.
KING, HAMILTON & Co.,
CALCUTTA.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand, Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

FIXED DEPOSITS received, subject to six and twelve months' notice of withdrawal at rates which can be ascertained on application.

HOME REMITTANCE ACCOUNTS opened and interest at 3 per cent. per annum allowed upon deposits of Rs. 500 and upwards.

REMITTANCES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. Demand and Telegraphic, made at the current rates of Exchange, and addresses in connection with the latter registered Free of Charge through Messrs. HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, Cornhill, London.

LONDON :
HENRY S. KING & CO.

THE DEMAND
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EVERY YEAR since 1865, the preference shown for STANDARD POLICIES has been very marked; the NEW BUSINESS having exceeded £1,000,000, sums assured, PER ANNUM—a result maintained uninterruptedly for so long a period by NO OTHER BRITISH OFFICE.

PREMIUMS MODERATE; CONDITIONS LIBERAL.

POLICYHOLDERS SECURITY.
NEARLY ....£9,000,000 Stg.
EVERY INFORMATION
in connection with LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS can be obtained on application to

F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary, Bombay Branch.

GREAT FIRE AT SUNDERLAND.
CHUBB'S PATENT SAFE
preserves its contents
ABSOLUTELY UNINJURED.

55, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
July 20th, 1898.

Messrs. CHUBB & SON'S LOCK & SAFE Co., Ltd.,
128, Queen Victoria Street, London.

DEAR SIR,—You will doubtless have observed the report of the great fire at Sunderland.

We sent out Mr. Hastie there to try and get information about any of your Safes. We are glad to say that he discovered a large one of your manufacture on the premises of W. Wade & Son, 220, High Street, Indiarubber and Guttapercha Merchants. This had been in very intense heat, and was covered with debris.

After a little trouble they managed to open the safe with the keys, and to the delight of the owners, their papers were found ABSOLUTELY UNINJURED.

We are, yours faithfully,
For Henry Walker & Son, Ltd.,
J. G. WALKER, Managing Director,

Illustrated PRICE LISTS of CHUBB'S SAFES free on application to

EDALJEE PESTONJEE,
Bombay Agent,
7, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.

DR. F. B. SEERVAI,
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 3, HORNBY ROW,
Opposite the Bombay General Post Office.

GERMANY.
HOTEL ENGLISCHERHOF
SOBERNHEIM A. D. NAHE,
RHEINPROVINZ.

SOBERNHEIM is on the direct railway line between PARIS and BRUSSELS, one hour from BINGERBRUCK.

BOARD (including room and attendance from one guinea a week. English spoken.

G. KIEHL, Proprietor

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 24.

Consols were unchanged in London yesterday at 110 5-16. French Rentes declined 1-4 per cent, to 102 1-4; while Paris Exchange on London remained at 25·20 1-2 fcs. Indian Sterling Loan continued at 116, and 3 1-2 per cent Rupee Securities at £67 1-16. Bar Silver was 1-8d. higher in value, at 28 1-8d. per oz.; and in New York the metal was 1-4 cent dearer, at 61 1-2 cents, with demand Exchange on London 1-8 cent more, at 4·87 3-4 dollars. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight was unaltered in London at 1s. 3 13-16d.

Guzerat Yellow Rapeseed was quoted at 36 5-8s. per 416 lbs., May-June Shipment, to Havre, business done via the Canal, market steady; Cawnpore Yellow Rapeseed at 34 3-4s. per 416 lbs., same shipment, to the same port, business done via the Canal, in a steady market.

The total quantity of wheat afloat for the United Kingdom on Friday last was 3,060,000 quarters.

Spot Mid.-American Cotton was unchanged in Liverpool yesterday, as were also East Indians; while American Arrivals were 1-64d. lower, at 3 5-16 and 3 21-64d. per lb. for May and September-October delivery respectively. The day's Sales were 10,000 bales; and the Imports 22,000 bales. The market closed quiet, Surats quiet, Arrivals dull. The Manchester market was firm.

Ready Mid.-Uplands advanced 1-8 cent in New York to 6 1-4 cents per lb.; August Futures remained at 5·90 cents and December at 5·95 cents per lb The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 7,000 bales and the Arrivals to date compare as follows with those in 1898 and 1897 :—

	1899.	1898.	1897.
Tuesday's Receipts......	7,000	7,000	3,400
Three days' do.	20,000	19,500	10,500
Since 1st September......	8,028,000	8,321,000	6,547,000

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows :—

Cotton..................................	6,800	bales.
Wheat..................................	33,181	cwts.
Linseed..................................	5,705	"
Rapeseed..................................	10,410	"
Gingellyseed..................................	792	"
Poppyseed..................................	3,035	"
Castorseed..................................	1,916	"
Rice..................................	4,287	"

The Banks and local markets have been closed today for H. M. the Queen's birthday holiday.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE B I S N Co's s s Lawada, 2,121 tons, Captain G D Clarke, arrived in harbour yesterday, from Zanzibar 13th May, with a general cargo and 17 deck passengers.

THE Anchor Line s s Britannia, 1,962 tons, Captain A C Turner, arrived in harbour yesterday, from Glasgow 15th April, via Liverpool, with a general cargo and Miss S Hazell as a passenger and 20 Hounds. The vessel is consigned to Messrs W and A Graham and Co.

THE following is the list of passengers per Italian Steamer Singapore, Captain E Pezzarello, sailing 25th instant, at 10-30 a.m. :—Rev Fr Hoene Vicar General of Bombay; Mr W Glenck; Mr N D Senn; Mr Eh Fallet; Mr Walti; Lt-Col and Mrs G E Briggs; Mr and Mrs Prier de Saone and baby; Miss Prier de Saone; Mr C Wegmann; Mr S E Don Antonio Barrozo, Bishop of Mylapore; Three Missionary Gentlemen and a servant; Mr Emile Droz; Mr and Mrs H R Stuart; Mr and Mrs Abrecht; Capt Grant; Mrs H B S Dallinali; Sargent and Mrs A B Aitken; and 20 deck passengers.

ARRIVALS.

May.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
24	Lawada s..............	Clarke	Zanzibar, May 13.
	Britannia s..............	Turner	Glasgow, April 15.
	R I M S Minto	Ford	Port Blair, May 16.

DAILY EXPORTS.—MAY 23.

FOR LONDON.

Caithness s—40 cwt gum G H Mohomed; 130 cwt condiments H Muncherjee and Sons; 3 cases brassware Ardeshir and Byramjee; 70 cwt fishmaws R Dhunjee; 4 cwt peacock feathers B Esmail.

Arabia s—4000 cwt bonemeal Rehimtoola Kaderbhoy 3500 cwt jowari John L Kersten and Co.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Devonshire s—11800 cwt wheat Sanday and Co.

FOR HAMBURG.

Caithness s—1540 bales cotton and 500 cwt myrabollams Ralli Brothers; 3000 cwt bonemeal Ebrambhoy Currimbhoy Nanjee; 165 cwt gum John L Kersten and Co; 1000 cwt bonemeal E C Nanjee.

FOR HULL.

Othello s—10176 cwt wheat David Sassoon and Co; 1499 cwt myrabollams N Futehally and Co.

FOR ANTWERP.

Devonshire s—110 bales cotton Volkart Brothers; 1270 bales cotton 5725 cwt rapeseed 3860 cwt poppyseed 499 cwt myrabolloms Ralli Brothers.

FOR HAVRE.

Gymeric s—100 bales cotton Prierde Saone and Co.

FOR DUNKIRK.

Samoa s—300 cwt poppyseed David Sassoon and Co; 1000 bales cotton Ralli Brothers; 2101 cwt rapeseed W and A Graham and Co.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Dragoman s—4068 cwt wheat Ralli Brothers; 12886 cwt wheat John Facheri; 800 cwt mustardseed Volkart Brothers.

FOR GENOA.

Singapore s—100 bales cotton Volkart Brothers; 499 cwt linseed A Blaschcck and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Imperator s—440 bales cotton Glade and Co; 550 bales cotton Forbes Forbes and Co; 1265 bales cotton Ralli Brothers; 770 bales cotton Gaddum and Co.

Clanmacneil s—275 bales cotton David Sassoon and Co; 662 cwt myrabollams W Kipp.

FOR VENICE.

Imperator s—188 cwt castorseed A Blascheck and Co; 510 bales cotton Ralli Brothers; 200 bales cotton Gaddum and Co.

Clanmacneil s—250 bales cotton David Sassoon and Co.

FOR FUIME.

Imperator s—110 bales cotton Gaddum and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Sebsia s—200 bales twist Dhun Mill Limited.

Bengal s—3 cwt moye teeth 6 cwt ivory M M Essabhoy; 7lbs cow bazar Abdool C Esmalljee; 10 chests opium M H E Ellias; 6 chests opium E D Sassoon and Co; 23 chests opium C Bomanjee and Co; 13 chests opium David Sassoon and Co.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Mazagon s—200 tons old fish plates K Nixon and Co; 3049 bales twist C Bomonjee and Co; 300 bales cotton V Brothers; 450 bales twist R S N Talati and Co; 1000 bales twist C Ebrahim and Co; 300 bales twist P Canjee and Co; 1300 bales twist Talati and Co: 250 bales twist P F Talati and Co; 100 bales cotton Gaddum and Co; 200 bales twist Jamshedjee Brothers and Co; 1500 bales twist Sassoon J David and Co; 1305 bales twist E Noordin and Co; 1400 bales twist David Sassoon and Co; 100 bales twist N J Abraham; 405 bales twist Silas E Sassoon; 1000 bales twist Tata and Co.

Bengal s—1 chest opium K Abde Rahim 30 chests opium C Bomanjee and Co; 3 chests opium E D Sassoon and Co; 45 chests opium C Ebrahim and Co; 17 chests opium R S N Talati and Co; 19 chests opium E Noordin and Co; 9 chests opium N J Abraham.

RAILWAY RETURNS.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 6th May, 1899, on 461 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated.)	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total Traffic for the week	89,000	3,20,000	4,000	4,13,000
Or per mile of Railway	193	694	9	896
For previous 17 weeks of half year,	13,80,861	42,28,272	76,819	58,35,952
Total for 18 weeks ..	14,69,861	45,48,272	80,819	60,98,952
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	82,550	4,01,538	1,526	4,85,614
Per mile of Ry. do.	179	871	3	1,053
Total to corresponding date do.	10,39,525	45,33,312	89,641	56,62,478

Decrease for the week ....Rs. 72,614
Increase to date .... " 4,36,474

PALANPUR-DEESA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 6th May 1899, on 17·28 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated.)	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week............	300	400	...	700
On per mile of Railway	18	23	...	41
For previous 17 weeks of half-year.	6,303	6,282	22	12,667
Total for 18 weeks	6,663	6,682	22	13,367
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	186	576	...	762
Per mile of Ry. do.	11	33	...	44
Total to corresponding date do. ..	2,934	7,711	150	10,795

Increase for the week............Rs. 62
Ditto to date............ " 2,572

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

DUCKWORTH—May 17, at "Cardiff Castle," Cleveland Town, Bangalore, the wife of Walter E Duckworth, L R C P and S (Edin), of a son.

MACBRIDE—May 15, at Negapatam, the wife of C MacBride, of a son.

DEATHS.

COLEMAN—May 19, at Coonoor, Sarah Maltwood, widow of James Coleman, aged 72.

DINGER—May 17, at Kamptee, C P, Mr Thomas Hughes Dinger, retired Manager, Commissariat Office, Madras Establishment, aged 68 years, 7 months and 20 days.

RYVES—April 21, on board the "Himalaya," Robert Hugh Ryves, Indian Civil Service, aged 29, only son of the late Major Joseph Gore Ryves, R E, and Mrs Ryves, The Mount, Budleigh Salterton, and grandson of the late William Ryves, formerly of Ryves Castle, Limerick.

SMITH—May 19, at Poonamallee, Jane, widow of the late Troop Quarter-Master James Smith, Royal Horse Artillery, in her 70th year.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1899.

THE eightieth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress was celebrated in India and throughout her vast Empire with rejoicings and prayers of thanksgiving offered up by every creed and in every language spoken by some four hundred millions of the human race. It was a happy inspiration of the Metropolitan to recommend that all creeds should join in a universal service of prayer and thankfulness. It is a notable event, characteristic of the wider charity and tolerance of these later times that the suggestion has been eagerly welcomed not only by all Christian sects, but by Hindus, Mahomedans and Zoroastrians. Queen Victoria alone among mortals has been privileged to rule over dominions so vast, so fertile and diverse, beloved and acclaimed by a multitude of peoples out-numbering the subjects of the five Great Powers of the Continent, with the seventy-five millions of the United States thrown in. It has been given to few to live eighty years in unbroken health, to adorn the greatest throne in the world for upwards of sixty years with every prospect of prolonging a useful life and a brilliant reign well into the next century. Few of the Queen's subjects have any personal knowledge of even the early Victorian era, when railways were distrusted and telegraphs and steamships did not exist. It is difficult in the present day to realise that the very idea of building ships of iron—much less of steel—and of casing the wooden-walls of old England in armour was foreign to the intelligence of the time, and would have been scouted as insane. Any Chancellor of the Exchequer that asked the House of Commons to vote a budget providing for an expenditure of a hundred and twelve millions in a time of peace, would certainly have been sent to Colney Hatch. In the early years of the splendid reign the watchwords of public men and even of responsible ministers were "Peace, Retrenchment and Reform!" We have got beyond all that. Now the country cheerfuly pays for ever-increasing armaments that we may dominate every sea and secure the lion's share of every partition—"even at the risk of war." Yet, since the Queen ascended the throne in 1837 England has been involved in only one great war, into which we "drifted" after forty years of peace.

Other forty years have passed since, without a war with any Great Power. But the Crimean War effected a permanent change in the public sentiment which after the exhaustion of the Revolution and Napoleonic conflicts, craved for peace, as the one priceless boon. That feeling gave way to its opposite. Prince Albert in October 1854 wrote that "Men having seen blood, are no longer the same, and are not to be controlled. The cry is now for the annihilation of Russia,"—which had committed the unpardonable crime of destroying at Sinope a Turkish fleet conveying troops for the invasion of Russian territory. After the sufferings entailed by the siege of Sebastapol during the dreadful winter of 1855-56 the country clamoured for revenge, and the dismemberment of Russia, though the professed objects of the war had been realised. Lord Palmerston's Government made peace at the risk of its popularity, but the Queen shared the popular feeling. On April 3, 1856, her Majesty wrote to Napoleon III.: "Although sharing the feeling of the majority of my people, who think the peace as a little premature, I feel bound to tell you that I approve highly of the terms in which it is couched as a result of the sacrifice made by us in common during this just war, and as ensuring so far as this is possible the stability and equilibrium of Europe." Prince Albert had written just before: "The Peace is to be signed on Monday. It is not such as we could have wished; still it is infinitely to be preferred to the prosecution of the war with the present complication of general policy." The complication in question was the resolute refusal of Prussia to join in bringing pressure to bear on Russia, and the unwillingness of Napoleon III. to continue a costly and exhausting war from which the Western Powers were debarred by a self-denying ordinance from obtaining any territorial advantage. As it was the settled ill-will of Russia was ultimately fatal to his Empire. In 1870 Austria was prevented from combining her forces with France, being threatened by Russia by a declaration that such intervention would be countered by an invasion of Austrian territory. But nothing of that was foreseen at the time. Nor was it foreseen that a British Prime Minister before the end of the reign would publicly confess before the world that in the Crimean War we too had put our money on the wrong horse. The Peace being signed after a succesful war, the close and cordial allliance between the two Western Powers seemed to be placed on a secure and permanent basis. The Queen, who has never consented to be a mere spectator of the historical events in progress around her, wrote on the 29th August to the French Emperor :—"Permit to express here all the sentiments of warm friendship and affection with which I subscribe myself, Sire and dear Brother, Your Imperial Majesty's good and affectionate Sister and Friend, Victoria R." That was on the occasion of the Royal visit to Paris. Her Majesty again wrote of the Emperor on the same day :—"I know few people whom I have felt involuntarily more inclined to confidence, and speak unreservedly to. I should not fear saying anything to him. I felt—I do not know how to express it—safe with him." Of the Prince the Queen wrote :—"He quite admits that it is extraordinary how very much attracted one becomes to the Emperor when one lives with him quite at one's ease, and intimately." A change came over both, when Napoleon III. committed the grievous indiscretion of inviting the Queen and Prince to witness the ceremony attending the completion of the great naval harbour of Cherbourg. The feeling of confidence disappeared when the immense strength of that great fostress, and the array of ships of war in the harbour gave rise to the thought that they might facilitate the invasion of England. The neccessity of strengthening the national defences was impressed on the royal mind.

Yet the Emperor had offered to allow British reinforcements for India during the Mutiny to be sent through France—an undoubted mark of friendship. In two short years from that time—in 1859—the military and naval estimates were largely increased, and a costly scheme of fortifications prepared to guard against an invasion from France. The immediate occasion of that demonstration of altered feelings was the intervention of Napoleon, to drive Austria out of Italy and free that peninsula "from the Alps to the Adriatic." The Emperor proposed a marriage between his cousin, Prince Napoleon, and Princess Mary of Cambridge. The Queen would not hear of it, although Lord Palmerton pointed out that the Prince would be a much more suitable *parti* than "some little German Prince"—a singularly maladroit way of putting the matter in the hearing of Prince Albert. The proposal being pressed, the Queen extricated herself from the difficulty by communicating with the Princess—afterwards Duchess of Teck,—who of course replied that nothing would induce her to consent to such an alliance. Prince Napoleon thereupon married a daughter of King Victor Emmanuel. The distrust occasioned by the unexpected evidence of French naval preparedness observed at Cherbourg was intensified by the campaign for the liberation of Italy. The Queen and the Prince looked upon the war with Austria as the first step towards the acquisition of the Rhine boundary by France. When the French Empire was swept away, Bismarck and his unscrupulous methods gave much cause for anxiety at Windsor. The peremptory insistence with which the Iron-Chancellor pressed for—and obtained—concessions in Africa and elsewhere as the price of his support of British influence in Egypt, indicated that he was prepared to go to great lengths to gain his ends, and a fear of invasion by Germany succeeded to the French scare. The "Battle of Dorking" made a sensation by showing with what facility a German army could land and seize London. That was Sir George Chesney's ingeniour fiction—a novel with a purpose. The outrageous campaign of calumnies and insults directed against the Empress Fredrick, the Queen's eldest-born, went beyond all bounds, and her Majesty's name was not always respected in the Prince's journalistic fulminations. But these are but trifling incidents of an illustrious reign during which the Empire has expanded to unexampled limits. While exempt from the sacrifices incurred by other nations to obtain much less satisfactory results, the prosperity of the Empire has kept pace with its phenomenal geographical extension. Its resources have been developed with a continuous energy, evidencing the vigour and capacity of the British people. Every resource of civilization has been made available for the convenience, the comfort and the security of immense populations, happy under the benign sway of Victoria, Queen and Empress of India.

THE weekly report on the state of the crops shows that rain fell in more or less quantities over almost all parts of India. In the Punjab reaping and threshing of spring crops are still going on, and in Mooltan, Amritsar and Peshawar cultivators are sowing autumn crops. Sugarcane and tobacco are being weeded in parts of Sialkot, and the state of the extra spring crops is generally satisfactory, while the condition of cattle varies from good to poor. In parts of Assam Division more rain is required. The prospects of tea are good, but red spider abounds in Cachar, Nowgong, and parts of Darrang. Early rice and sugarcane are being put into the ground, and good progress is being made with the plucking and manufacture of tea. The average condition in Bombay is fairly satisfactory; reaping of late crops and preparations are going on for next season. The prospects in Bengal have been greatly improved by the rain, and the cultivators are pushing on rapidly with ploughing and early sowings, while autumn rice and jute already sown are coming on well. Spring harvest operations are practically over in the North-West Provinces and Oudh. Irrigation of the standing crops is being resorted to where necessary, and in parts even preparations for the autumn crop have been going on. The Central Provinces do not appear to have had much rain, the want of which is keenly felt at present. In Saugor the labouring classes complain of want of work, and the forest concessions have proved invaluable in this district, owing to a bumper mahua harvest. Fodder and grain stocks are insufficient in parts, and about 1,272 persons are in receipt of relief in the Damoh district. The adjoining presidency of Madras has not been favoured with showers, except in the northern part of the Circars. The standing crops are, however, in good condition, and some small sowings are being made, while the soil is being prepared in several districts. Prices are rather higher in the Circars and in parts of the Deccan, and on the West-Coast, but elsewhere the decline continues. Rain descended pretty generally in Rajputana, where harvesting and threshing is progressing. Agricultural stock is in fair to good condition, but poor in Meywar and Haraoti. The numbers employed on relief-works in Ajmere are 591, Merwara 4,458, and Marwar 940. The number on gratuitous relief in Ajmere-Merwara is 160. Prices are normal in Central India, and with the exception of Malwa and Bhopawar agricultural operations have been completed. In Lower Burma ploughing for wet weather paddy has commenced in parts of the Amherst district, while in Upper Burma harvesting of Island crops is completed and reaping of dry weather paddy continues. The preparations for the early wet weather crops have been extended to six other districts. The prospects of the spring crops in Kashmir are excellent, and in Nepal the wheat crop is doing well.

THE pamphlet sent by the Aryan Education Society to the Gaekwar of Baroda containing a record of its work between June 1897 and January 1899 is interesting. The institution was established by a few graduates with the primary motive of cheapening education, and where the lessons learnt at school and college might find practical continuation. The number of those who joined to do the active work of the Society has risen from nine in the beginning to fourteen at present, all of whom are bound by promise to give three years' service to the Society, on whatever remuneration it is able to offer. As evidence of the keen interest of the working members each has subscribed Rs. 100 to the general funds. The High School was opened on June 1, 1897, and five months afterwards the Management deemed it advisable to open a middle school, so as to secure a complete and uniform system of training throughout. The visitations of plague denuded the schools of their students, and a combined register of 700 was reduced to 300. Nevertheless, the pupils sent up for the Matriculation did excellently well, but the falling off in attendance, and consequently of fees, has affected the financial condition. In spite of the difficulties and discouragements due to the pestilence, the Society has been doing its work steadily and perseveringly, and the institution is thoroughly deserving of the practical sympathy of the public. A special feature in the curriculum is an attempt made to impart some knowledge of the main principles of religion and morality—just so much as is necessary to develop uniformly the minds of young students, and it is hoped they will be successful in bringing about a happy union between secular and religious education.

IT is understood that the building of a new Secretariat at Simla to accommodate the Home, Revenue and Agricultural, Legislative and Financial Departments, has now been practically decided upon. It will be built on the site of Peterhoff, replacing the present unsatisfactory Finance Department building, and will relieve pressure in the Central Offices, which have long been overcrowded. There are people who would prefer to see the number and area of the Secretariats throughout India largely reduced.

THE Bombay Parsee cricketers who were going to play Simla early in June cannot raise a representative team, and have wisely decided to postpone the visit to October, when they will have command of their full strength.

LIEUTENANT PERKINS 42nd Gurkhas has been appointed to Wing Officer, 27th Bombay Infantry; Lieutenant Merriman, from 1st Bombay Grenadiers, to be Wing Officer.

MAJOR EARDLEY-WILMOT has been appointed Second-in-Command of the 18th Bombay Lancers *pro tem.*, *vice* Major Nixon seconded; Majors Pirie and Shore, Captains Chesney, Campbell and Grimston, and Lieutenant Maxwell to move up steps.

LIEUTENANT WINWOOD shortly succeeds Captain Kennard as Adjutant, 5th, Dragoon Guards, on the latter's tenure of office shortly expiring.

THERE have been breaches on the Mu Valley extension of the Burmah Railway, and trains have been much delayed in consequence.

A YOUNG Burman who was herding buffaloes in a mofussil village in Burma was attacked by a tiger on the 7th instant and has since succumbed to his injuries.

CAPTAIN ROBERTS, 1st Bombay Lancers, will officiate as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General in the Bengal Command, *vice* Major Steele, who goes on a year's furlough.

THE board of the Delhi, Umballa-Kalka Railway Company has declared a devidend at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum for the half-year ended the 31st December last, free of Indian, but subject to English, income tax.

OFFICERS commanding British and NativeCorps in the Poona District desirous of sending candidates to the Second Class School of Musketry, Deolali, commencing on July 15th, should submit their application before June 1st.

THE late Sir Robert Warburton, the *Athenæum* says, had practically put the finishing touches to the MSS. of his book on the Khyber and the neighbouring tribes, but Mr. Murray will probably not publish it till the autumn.

CAPTAIN BAYNES has been appointed 2nd Squadron Commander 2nd Bombay Lancers *vice* Captain Kenny appointed Deputy Adjutant-General, Aden Command. Captains Griffiths and Cobham are also granted steps *pro tem.*

CAPTAIN HAMILTON, 2-4th Gurkhas, has been selected to succeed Captain Kerr as Recruiting Officer of the Gurkha District, Gorakhpur, as Captain Colomb has been appointed Second-in-Command of the 4-2nd Gurkhas.

Two Burman cowboys were admitted into the General Hospital, Rangoon, on the 10th instant from a neighbouring village, having been severely gored by a bull. One of them died the next day from the effects of the injuries, while the other remained in a dangerous condition.

NEWS was received at Rangoon on Tuesday morning that the train could not pass Bonchaung Gorge, owing to large quantities of rock having fallen and completely blocked the line, hence the train had to be shunted back into Nankan station until the line was cleared. All trains will have to wait at this station as transhipment is considered too dangerous.

ANOTHER serious case of highway robbery is reported from Ferozepore, the outrage this time being committed within the railway bounds. Two native merchants returning from Lahore with Rs. 5,000 in cash were attacked outside the station, stunned by blows with *lathis*, and deprived of all their money. The thieves decamped and left no trace. The case is in hands of the Railway police.

AN accident occurred on the E. I. Railway Line at Luckie Serai on Saturday. A goods train ran into another that was drawn up at the platform. The guard of the train was severely injured, both his legs being broken. A minor accident took place on the Loop Line Mail on Sunday, a few miles above Sahebganj. A buffalo would not get out of the way of the train, and one carriage got derailed. The train was delayed some three hours.

OFF Penang, on Saturday, a Malay fisherman came by his death in a strange way. He was fishing in a boat when a skipjack or spear-fish, a foot and a quarter long or thereabouts, came skimming along the surface and dashed its sharp snout on his chest, right over the heart. The poor man gave a yell and immediately fell back. Death from loss of blood followed within a few minutes.

AN attempt is being made to introduce "Calling by Post" in Mussoorie this year, and Lady Bindon Blood has placed the seal of her approval on the innovation. Her ladyship has posted the following circular letter to all her callers :—"Dear Mrs.——, So many kind friends have been good enought to call on me that I find it quite impossible to return their visits in person within a reasonable time. I hope, therefore you will forgive my sending my cards by post.'

APPLICATIONS for permission to retain ammunition unexpended at the termination of the musketry year should be submitted to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Poona District, who will lay them before the General Officer Commanding with a view to their being forwarded for sanction by the Lieutenant-General Commanding. If sanction is accorded, the ammunition will be available for use during the ensuing year at the discretion of the Officer commanding in addition to the amount authorised for the year.

ON Saturday, a bricklayer named Motay Naicken residing in Triplicane, was stabbed in the stomach by Govindan, who had been only on that day released from the Penitentiary. Motay Naiken had been witnessing the Mohurrum scenes near the Janabazaar in Triplicane, when the accused drew a penknife from his waist and struck him in the belly. He was taken to the Royapetta hospital where Mr. Sultan Mohideen Sahib Bahadur, Presidency Magistrate, took down his deposition. Govindan has implicated two other persons, (Bodian and Govindan,) as having taken part in the quarrel. He added he was under the influence of drink.

ON Tuesday evening a meeting of the inhabitants of Surat was held in the Morvi Theatre, to give expression to their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Professor T. K. Gajjar in connection with the Queen's statue at Bombay, the Polytechnic Institute (Kala Bhavan) at Baroda and in connection with the plague, under the presidency of Mr. E. H. Moscardi, the District and Sessions Judge. Among those present were the Nagarseth, Mahajanseth, the son of the late Nawab, Messrs. Mir Goolam Baba Khan, Sayyed-el-Edrus, Ahmedbhai Rahimtullabhai, Rao Bahadur Nandshanker Tuljashanker, Rao Bahadur Motiram Rajaram, Manchersa Palanji, A. M. Gandhi and others. An address was read by Rao Bahadur Mukundray Meniray and adopted, various speakers of different communities strongly supporting it. Professor Gajjar replied thanking the various speakers and stating that he owed much to Surat itself.

THE difficulty that arose between the Madras Railway and the Madras Municipality regarding the proposed alignment of the line and the railway crossings to the proposed Joint Beach Station has now been set at rest. The objections raised by the Municipality as to the line interfering with the sewers underlying the land has been met by a slight change in the alignment, and Government has now accorded permission for the work being proceeded with. As regards the railway crossings, Government, while recognising the importance of prohibiting where possible the construction of further crossing of railways over main thorough fares on the level in the neighbourhood of the city of Madras, remarks that the temporary character of the joint passenger station arrangements contemplated makes it impossible at present to settle the most suitable points for the erection of expensive permanent works at the crossings of roads and railways. It has therefore been decided that the roads will continue to be crossed by the Madras and South Indian Railways on the level until the Harbour schemes have sufficiently matured to permit of the temporary railway arrangements being made permanent, when over-bridges will have to be substituted for level crossings.

SIGNOR MALATESTA, the well-known Italian Anarchist and political leader, has made his escape from the island of Lampedusa, a small place containing about 500 inhabitants lying to the south of Sicily and west of Malta, where he was sent for four years of "domicilio coatto" after having suffered six months' imprisonment at Ancona for participation in the bread riots of January 1898.

GENERAL POLAVIEJA has announced that the Spanish Military Estimates amount to 28,000,000 pesetas, twelve millions of which are to be assigned to the officers coming from the colonies. He will also lay before the House an extraordinary Budget for the renewal of armaments and for the purchase of quick-firing guns, on the ground that Germany, Great Britain and Austria-Hungary, and even the United States, are increasing their armaments. Provision will likewise be made for the organisation of the defence of the Canary and Balearic Islands, and for the adequate increase of the army above the present normal peace footing of 80,000 men, in order to insure the defence of the coasts without neglecting the interior of the peninsula. The Queen Regent has signed a decree for a credit of 5,000,000 pesetas for the purpose of improving the defences of the Canaries.

IN conversation with a gentleman who has just made a trip through western Indian territory, I picked up something new and interesting to me in regard to the habits of the prairie-dog and rattlesnake. This party said that a few weeks ago, while resting under a small tree in the Territory where there was a dog town, he noticed a commotion among some dogs near him; they would run up to a place and peep at something and then scamper off. Looking to see what was the matter, he saw that there were about fiteen to twenty dogs around a rattlesnake, which at length went into one of the dog-holes. As soon as he had disappeared the little fellows began to push in dirt, evidently to fill the hole up, but about the time they got enough dirt to cover the entrance the snake stuck his head up through the dirt and every dog scampered off to a safe distance, all the time keeping up an incessant barking. The snake slowly crawled to another hole about a rod distant and went in, and then up came the dogs agaiq and went to work to push dirt up before them to the hole. This time they succeeded in their enterprise and completely covered the entrance to the hole, and then went to work, using their noses to tamp with and pounding the dirt down hard, after which they went away. My friend went to the place, and said he was surprised to find they had packed the dirt in solid with their noses, having sealed the snake well to the ground.

THE "Popolo Romano" quotes with great pleasure an important article in the "Fremdenblatt" of Vienna upon Italy as a naval Power in relation to the visit of the King and Queen to Sardinia. The presence of the French squadron at Cagliari, in the view of the Viennese organ, is a proof that the long-standing hostility between France and Italy is at an end. In spite of many obstacles Italy will yet rise to her due position as a maritime Power. The efforts which she has made have demonstrated to France that the dream of converting the Mediterranean into a French lake must be abandoned. France has endeavoured in vain to detach Italy from the Triple Alliance, which has been her support in the years of trouble, and now has accepted the inevitable. Italy, says the "Framdenblatt," will not suffer through the new Soudan convention, and is now upon the eve of a new era of prosperity and maritime strength, which must always be the greatest means of her power. Her mercantile marine is destined to be the principal mediator in the commerce of the world, and the pacification of Northern Africa will lead to rapid development. "The French and British squadrons will salute in the waters of Sardinia a great naval Power, arisen after many centuries." Unfortunately for Italy these pleasant eulogies exceed the fact, and she must make many sacrifices and exert sustained effort before the position indicated by the Austrian official organ is attained. Nevertheless, the geographical situation of the country, not less than its history, undoubtedly marks the place of Italy as a maritime Power. If she had no land frontier she would rapidly become one of the greatest. It is the fatal double burden that weighs so heavily upon the nations of the Continent.

M. LOCKROY has been paying his promised series of visits to the ports of the Channel. His purpose has been to assure himself personally of the readiness of the coast and mobile defences, so far as the former are subject to his control. At Dunkirk, Boulogne, Havre, and St. Malo he inspected the batteries and stations of the mobile defence, paying particular attention to the building yards and the operations at the Hoc preving ground at Havre. At Lezardrieux he visited the positions of Brehat and the Ile a Bois, where defensive works are proposed. On his arrival at Brest he visited the northern squadron and the division assigned to the superior school of the Navy. His stay at the port was very brief and he arrived at Cherbourg on Tuesday, returning to Paris on the next day. His proposals concerning the question of coast defence are much disputed. There is an anxious desire to find employment for the super-abundant force of the "inscription maritime"—about 25,000 men—who would become available upon mobilisation, and he proposes to man the naval batteries wholly with these under naval officers, thus liberating about 5,000 Marines. A very weak point in the proposal is that the men are not available until the order for mobilisation is issued, and that, though their naval experience would be of value, they would displace men who had had practical experience of the Service. In his project as first presented he boldly expressed the view that the batteries under the Minister of War should be transferred to the Navy, so that the whole available contingent of *inscrits* might be utilised, but he revised his scheme and dropped this argument. However, M. Raiberti, who made a remarkable speech during the naval discussion, has embodied his idea in a formal "proposition de loi." It may be surmised that the visit to the Channel ports had for one purpose to learn the opinion of experts on the spot.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

LONDON, MAY 21.

Touching tributes to the Queen have appeared in the British and foreign press on the occasion of her Majesty's birthday.

The event will be celebrated on a scale resembling that of the Jubilee.

Special services will be held in all the Cathedrals, in addition to which military displays and banquets will take place.

NEW JAPANESE LOAN.

A Japanese loan of ten million sterling, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent., will be issued next week. The issue price is 90.

THE VOLKSRAAD AND PRESIDENT KRUGER'S REFORMS.

The Transvaal Volksraad has had President Kruger's proposed franchise reforms under consideration, and the tone of the discussion is unfavourable to the same.

The proposals put forward by the President are regarded as too liberal, whereas the Uitlanders regard them as absurdly inadequate.

MAJOR MARCHAND AT SUEZ.

MAY 23.

Major Marchand and his party have arrived at Suez on board the French warship D'Assas.

The French delegations to welcome Major Marchand and the public receptions arranged in his honor have been countermanded.

The ship is traversing the Canal in quarantine owing to the plague in Egypt.

TENDERS FOR INDIA BILLS.

Tenders are invited for £2,500,000 of India bills to replace those falling due on the 3rd June. They will be payable in six or twelve months.

THE STEAMER KAISOW.

The steamer Kaisow has been floated off Lundy Island, and is now unloading at Barry.

NEW CHINESE CRUISER.

The new Chinese cruiser, the Haipien, has left Portsmouth for China.

GOLD FOR INDIA.

The mail steamer Rome has sailed from Melbourne with £117,873 in gold for Colombo.

THE VICEROY'S LEVEE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, MAY 24.

The Viceroy's levee was held to-night, and was a large one. Amongst those present was Sir Bindon Blood, who is here on short leave.

BLOCK ON THE BURMAH RAILWAY.

RANGOON, MAY 24.

Owing to breaches on the Mu Valley Extension, traffic has been considerably delayed. Large quantities of rock have fallen and completely blocked the line in the Bosschaung Gorge.

Transhipment is considered too dangerous, and so until the line is clear everything is at a standstill.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE.

MADRAS, MAY 24.

A meeting of Roman Catholic natives, consisting of more than 500 representatives of the Presidency town and the Mofussil, including delegates from all principal towns in Southern India, was held, last night, at the Victoria Public Hall, Madras, for the purpose of establishing a Catholic Association for Southern India. Bishop Meyer was chosen President of the Association and a Committee for three years was appointed. Grreat enthusiasm prevailed throughout the meeting.

COMPLIMENTARY GATHERING AT SURAT.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

SURAT, MAY 23.

This evening a thoroughly representative crowded meeting of the inhabitants of Surat was held in the tastefully decorated Morvi Theatre to give expression to their appreciation of the valuable services recently done by Professor T. K. Gajjar in connection with the Queen's statue at Bombay, and also the Polytechnic Institute at Baroda (Kala Bhavan) and his recent investigation in connection with the plague, its causes and its remedies. The meeting was under the presidency of Mr. E. H. Moscardi, the District and Sessions Judge, and among those present were the Nagarseth Mahajanseth, the sons of the late Nawab Mir Goolambabakhan Sayyed-el-Edrus, Ahmedbhai Rahimtullabhai, R. B. Nandshankar Tuljashanker, R. B. Motiram Rajaram, Mr. Manchersa Palanji, Mr. A. M. Ghandi and others. An address read by R. B. Makundray Maniray was adopted with vociferous cheers, being strongly supported by various speakers of different communities. Professor T. K. Gajjar made a pathetic reply, thanking his various teachers and stating that he owed much to Surat itself. The meeting was dispersed after the distribution of pan-sopari and flowers.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

LIVERPOOL, MAY 23.

The Clan Line steamer Robertson left here for Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta this morning.

COLOMBO, MAY 24.

M. M. steamer Sydney from Europe and P. and O. Arcadia from Australia arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MAY 23.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

Good Bhownuggur, 2 25-32.

The Manchester Market has been firm.

2¾ per cent. Consols	110 5-16
3 per cent. Rentes	102 1-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	116
3½ per cent. Rupee Papers	67 1-16
Bar Silver	28 1-8

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

MAY 24.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, interrupted.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon, St. Vincent, perfect.

Telegrams for Nicaragua are subject to censure at San Juan Del Sur and accepted at Sender's risk.

Telegrams for Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) are subject to the same restrictions as Philippine Islands.

Private telegrams in secret language can be accepted for Philippine Islands but are subject to censure of United States Government.

Censure imposed at Manila (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.

Telegrams will be booked for any railway office belonging to the Great Indian Peninsular system marked G. I. P. in Guide on and after the 25th instant.

Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the British frontier between Tengyueh and Yungchang.

Madagascar and Reunion mail closes at Mauritius 5 p.m. on Monday 29th instant.

Amoor route right.

Line Saigon Bangkok interrupted.

Cable Assab Massowah interrupted.

[illegible] telegrams in Code cannot be accepted for Bolivia.

PARIS NEWS AND NOTES.

THE DREYFUS DRAMA.

PURER AIR AND WATER FOR PARIS.

HISTORY OF RELIGIOUS CONGRESS.

AN INTERESTING EXHIBITION.

PARIS, MAY 3.

THERE really seems to be a reasonable hope that visitors to the Exhibition next year will find the capital traversed by a limpid river instead of by the foul, muddy, and malodorous stream that has been an offence to the eye and the nostrils for a long time past. Fair promises of a Seine that should no more be a recipient of sewage have been held out so long by the city authorities that Parisians had almost left off counting on their realization, but at last the interminable delay is understood to be nearly over.

In reality the delay was inevitable, as the work to be accomplished was not only gigantic but had to be carried out in the face of the bitterest opposition. The entire sewage of the metropolis has hitherto gone into the Seine. From July onwards none of it will be disposed of in this most undesirable way; it will all pour into one huge central drain and be carried off to two immense suburban sewage farms, situated respectively at Mery and Trial. A large portion of the Mery farm is already in working order, and was officially visited a day or two ago by the municipal delegates. Mery is a high-lying sandy plain, known to the local inhabitants as the Sahara of Paris. With the help of the sewage it is to be converted into pasture land, and it is hoped that, when thus changed, this desert will aid in the solution of the problem of supplying the capital with pure milk. A few years ago such expectations would have been scoffed at, but the results obtained with the sewage farm already in existence at Gennevilliers have converted the most hardened sceptic. Indeed, the inhabitants of Gennevilliers, whose land has gone up enormously in value, have just erected a statue to Durand-Claye, who caused the new system to be applied, and whose life was threatened by his fellow citizens when first he proposed the innovation. One of the landowners whose property was to be taken by the Trial farm, demanded ten million francs damages, and that sum was postively accorded him by the jury of the local court. On appeal the amount was reduced to a hundred francs, but the original figure is an indication of the hostility the scheme aroused in the first instance.

The purification of the Seine is not the only step that is on the eve of being concluded in the direction of ridding Paris of the abominable odours that disgrace it in summer. Before long the refuse carted away by the dust collectors will cease to be spread over the fields and market gardens of the suburbs. The municipality has at length decided to treat this evil-smelling "gadoue" on a new system, and the wind will cease to waft us back the choicest scents of our dust-bins. Altogether the prospects of purer water and purer air for Paris are comfortingly rosy at present.

Another crushing argument of the military party against Dreyfus has been disproved. Deposing last November before the Criminal Chamber, General Zurlinden, General Roget, and Captain Cuignet all laid stress on the closing sentence of the bordereau—"I am leaving for the manœuvres"—as proof positive not only of the guilt of Dreyfus, but of the innocence of Esterhazy. General Zurlinden said: "The probationers of the General Staff usually attended the autumn manœuvres, but in that year (1894) they were informed on August 27th that they would not attend the manœuvres. The bordereau having been written before this date, the author was ignorant of the new arrangement. This fact shows that the document may come from a probationer. I look upon this demonstration of the author of the bordereau as most important."

General Roget and Captain Cuignet followed suit. Now the Court of Cassation has obtained from the War Office a copy of the circular alluded to by Captain Cuignet, informing the probationers of the altered arrangements, and it is dated May 17th, 1894. This discovery is another instance of the amazing ignorance or bad faith of the General Staff. General Mercier has offered to the Minister of War the explanation expected of him about the State Paper he took from the War Office. General Mercier says he has destroyed it. This document is the famous commentary by Du Paty de Clam on the secret evidence like which it was privately submitted to the Judges. General Mercier, when he discovered the first signs of danger in 1897, called at the War Office, probably on Colonel Henry, and took it away. The excuse has been given before the Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation. General Mercier alleges that Du Paty's commentary was written for his (Mercier's) own information, and was his property. The truth is that it was one of the secret documents that secured a conviction against Dreyfus, and it is therefore a State paper.

A Deputy called two three days ago on M. de Freycinet, the Minister of War, and told him that he would ask questions about the abstraction by General Mercier of this State paper. "Oh, but he has destroyed it, of course," replied the Minister of War. M. de Freycinet must have a gift of clairvoyance, for this is exactly the defence that General Mercier sets up in a letter he sent to the Minister of War, and he thought it worth while to bolster up his own word by the "word of honour" of General Gonse! Unfortunately for General Gonse and General Mercier this statement was contradicted by the former himself before the Court of Cassation when he said that General Mercier destroyed indeed the original, but kept a copy.

Another Congress—this time for the Science, or, as it is officially called, the History of Religions—is announced. It will meet in Paris, where, indeed, all scientific congresses would like to meet in the year of the Exhibition, and will last from the 3rd to the 10th of September. The affair is promoted by the Professors of the Ecole des Hautes-Etudes, the president being M. Albert Reville, and the secretaries the joint editors of the official "Revue de l'Histoire des Religions." The committee of organization includes M. Maspero and M. Guimet, the director of the beautiful museum which he so generously presented to the City of Paris; the veteran M. Jules Oppert, M. Senart, and M. Leroy-Beaulieu, together with other scholars of European reputation; while the Church shows her reconciliation with the Republic by contributing a Dean of Theology from Montauban and a Professor of the Catholic Institute of Paris. There are to be eight sections, Egyptian religion and Christianity having a whole section apiece, while most of the others are grouped in pairs. With the religion of the non-civilized is bracketed the "Religions of Pre-Columbian America," which should be interesting.

An interesting exhibition has been arranged at the National Library by M. Delille, Chief Librarian. Its sole object is to throw light on the life and times of Racine. Autographs and pictures are the means. This exhibition has been called "L'Histoire de Racine par l'Image et l'Autographe." It will be open to the public to the end of May, and is held in the Mazarin Gallery. The House where Racine was born at La Ferte Milon was pulled down forty years ago, and a larger one built in its place, but an album made in 1845 contains a sketch of it with many other drawings of houses and localities associated with Racine. The poet's natal house was that of a well-to-do bourgeois of the seventeenth century. The Racines, from father to son, were receivers of the salt tax. Another sketch shows the town house of the Duc de Luynes, not the residence in the Faubourg St. Germain, between a grand courtyard and garden, but that in the Rue Git-le-Cœur. This is now the most slummy street in Paris. Persons standing at windows in opposite houses might almost shake hands across it. But the Hotel de Luynes must have been sumptuous, and of a noble air. It had a fine garden behind a wide court, and structurally resembled the Hotel Cluny. Racine's uncle was the Duc de Luynes' steward, and Racine in boyhood stayed on long visits with him. The steward had a pavilion to himself.

There are also sketches of the Castle and Cathedral of Uzes, in the South of France. Racine had an uncle there who was a canon. He spent a few years when a young man at Uzes, whither he was sent to try and cultivate a vocation for the Church. It seems to the modern eye, a picturesque place, but Racine thought it frightful. He disliked the accentrated beauty of the women, their emphatic manners, and the violence of their passions when they fell in love. We may suppose that the original of Hermione, as she presented herself to the imagination of Racine, was an Uzes woman. There was no softness, he complained, in landscape or people. The sketches of Port Royal des Champs have interest as showing the place where soul life was most intense in France in Racine's time. He was truly born again at Port Royal. There, according to his last wish, he was buried at the feet of the good M. Hamon, his spiritual director, and the father of the poor.

Portraits grouped around that of Racine are of the men and women of his time. A thing to note—most of them had long, finely-modelled aquiline noses. Madame de Sevigne is one of the few with irregular features, and has a nose inclined to be snubby. Madame Maintenon is handsome. Her physiognomy shows a finely balanced mind, but she does not please. She wants poetic sentiment, and is at best a cold, clear-headed, self-centred utilitarian. However it was at her request that Racine wrote "Esther," and "Athalie."

The remains of another young woman supposed to have been murdered have been discovered in the Marne, near Adanville the other day. The clothes and underlinen indicated superior social rank. The body, which had been under water for a long period, was sent to the morgue. Although probably robbed of her purse or jewels, and then drowned the criminal or criminals were not aware that some Credit Foncier and Ville de Paris bonds were pinned in the stays of their victim. It is hoped that the numbers on these may enable the police to clear up the tragic mystery. The man arrested for the murder of the woman found in the Seine near Boulogne, has been liberated. No further clue is forthcoming.

The "Temps" of Thursday evening states that no authoritative information has as yet reached Paris concerning the Franco-Siamese agreement announced by the "New York Herald" yesterday. Referring to the Singapore telegram published by the "New York Herald" yesterday morning, the "Echo de Paris" protests against the cession of any Siamese territory to Great Britain, and says:—"Are we going to make the same reculade in Asia as we have in Africa? It is for the Quai d'Orsay to provide a basis for public opinion, and for the Chamber to see that there is no evacuation of territory without a definitive vote by Parliament. It would be an unpardonable mistake to abandon, under present circumstances, a strategic point of the value of Chantobun, or to give up the security, already very relative, afforded us by the neutral zone established along the left bank of the Mekong."

The Bureaux of the Chamber have just appointed the committee charged with the examination of the conventions relating to the delimitation of the frontiers of the respective Anglo-French possessions on the Niger and the Ivory Coast, and in the Soudan, &c. Among the members chosen are MM. de Lanessan, Etienne, Humbert, Brunet and Chautemps. The committee is unanimously favourable to both the Nile and Niger conventions. The "Temps" of Thursday contains the following paragraph:—"The Minister for Foreign Affairs will distribute on Saturday next two Yellow-books relating to the negotiation for the settlement of the Niger and Bahr-el-Ghazal questions. The distribution of the books has been delayed until the end of the week in order to permit of the Cabinets of Paris and London coming to an agreement as to the documents to be published, in accordance with diplomatic usage."

Referring to the coming Peace Conference on Tuesday the "Temps" does not see what room there is for hoping the Powers will agree on a common denominator, and a common measure of the different forces, so as to fix the equivalence of military and naval effectives, and the proportion of troops to the total population and territory of each State. The technical side of the task the young Czar has undertaken would require statesmen to be also highly accomplished savants. If the brains of Newton and Richelieu, La Place and Pitt, could be contained in two, instead of four, skulls, and applied to the settlement of that task, they, perhaps, might do something. For this reason, France must confine herself at the Hague to a policy of sincere good wishes, and, perhaps, the adoption of some "pium votum" in honour of international arbitration. All will depend on the state of mind of the plenipotentiaries or rather of the Governments that instruct them.

The Auersperg family must be glad to hear of Prince Franz's engagement to Miss Florence Hazard. The future father-in-law of Prince Franz Auersperg is the Lipton of New York grocers. With the dollars he is disposed to give the engaged pair they can lead a pleasant life at German springs, on the Riviera—where they can at once have the highest social currency—in Rome, Venice, or anywhere but in Vienna. Prince Franz will there remain what he is, there being, no family statute to fix the class in which he can find a bride worthy of full marriage. Miss Hazard will be given the title of Princess, but denied the honours attached to it, she not being "hochgeboren." A similar rule was observed in France previous to the Revolution. The denial of the Hoffahig status to non-born ladies accounts for the scarcity of American heiresses at Vienna. Prince Franz greatly needs a rich wife. He is the youngest son of a younger brother, who was heir presumptive, however, to all the family estates. When an officer in the Austrian Uhlans, he played high, was not a frequent winner, and had to leave the army. Though his family are influential at Vienna, they could do nothing for him. Baron Hirsch, the Providence of high-titled "decaves," was dead. Prince Franz took the strong resolution of going to the United States to make a new departure. He found it would be an advantage to a doctor to have an illustrious name on his visiting cards, and went in for the study of medicine. He is now a student in the Long Island Hospital, and is said to have sown his wild oats. It would be honourable to Miss Florence Hazard if she climbed to the same plane as the Princess Carl Feodor, of Bavaria whose silver wedding with the Royal oculist was celebrated a few days ago. Thousands of poor people blessed the husband and the wife who has been during the quarter of a century his helpmate in his ocular operations.

French journalists are beginning to drift back for the Congress at Rome. One of them, who spent a day and a half at Bologna on a flying visit to his friend, Carducci, the Italian poet, and Professor of Literature at the University of Bologna, has brought back the following characteristic story of that blunt-spoken genius. Opening his summer course of lectures the other day after the very brief Easter recess customary in Italian Universities, he noticed that his lecture-room was three-parts full of officers, in full uniform, and their women-folk. Carducci twitched at his beard in a nervous fashion he has when profoundly annoyed, and began—and ended—his inaugural discourse thus: "Gentlemen, we are beginning the new term well. I see before me a number of people who have nothing to do with my lectures. I even see"—this in almost horror-stricken tones—women present. Now these people have simply come here to look at me—to look at "me," gentlemen. But as I am neither"—with a bow to the military men—"a ballet-dancer nor"—indicating the ladies present—"a particularly good-looking man, I shall withdraw." And he did. There is nobody so savage, or even so rude, as a hopelessly shy man, when his shyness is made misery for him. But Carducci managed to be ironically "nasty" as well, and there has been trouble in Bologna since.

WE ("Times") understand that the departmental committee appointed by Lord Landowne in accordance with the recommendations of the committee presided over by Mr. Brodrick "to consider the numbers and constitution of the clerical establishment of the War Office, and to inquire how far it maybe possible by a better distribution and devolution of work, and by the amalgamation of subdivisions, to effect reductions in the present clerical staff" consists of Mr. Powell Williams, M. P. (chairman), Mr. George Wyndham, M. P., the Accountant-General (Mr. F. T. Marzials), and the Permanent Assistant Under-Secretary (Mr. Fleetwood Wilson). Three or four meetings of the committee have been held; but the inquiry is temporarily at a standstill because of the illness of Mr. Wyndham. According to the present outlook it is not likely that the committee's deliberations will result in any marked diminution of the War Office staff, the allegation being that certain of the departments, notably that dealing with Finance, are, under existing conditions' undermanned.

THE QUEEN-EMPRESS' BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

PRAYER-MEETINGS AND REJOICINGS.

YESTERDAY, being the anniversary of the eighty-first birthday of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, the whole city of Bombay resounded with prayers for long life and happiness to our gracious Sovereign. Most spontaneous and enthusiastic was the display of loyalty and allegiance to Her Majesty's throne and person throughout the various nationalities in the city. The day was observed as a general holiday, and people of all denominations repaired to their temples and churches for offering prayers and invoking Divine blessings upon Her Majesty, and passed the rest of the day in feasting and rejoicing. At nearly all dinner tables in the city, the toast of Her Majesty's health and of the Royal Family was honoured right royally. Prayers were offered in all the Christian churches, the principal Parsee fire-temples, and at the Madhav Baug, the Luxmi Narayen Temple at Gowalia Tank, at the Jacob Sassoon Fort Synagogue, in the hall of the Muljee Jaitha Cloth Market, etc. A novel feature of these loyal proceedings was a Hindu mass meeting held in front of Her Majesty's large statue on the Esplanade, the gift to the city of the late Khunderao Gaekwar, where prayers were offered, the Hari Kirtan was recited, and effective illuminations added to the other attractions of the occasion.

THE BIRTHDAY PARADE.

The annual parade in honour of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress' eighty-first birthday took place yesterday morning, the troops in the Garrison parading in review order. Brigadier-General F. Ventris, Commanding the Bombay District, had issued a Garrison Order directing the troops to be in position at 6-30 a.m. on the ground on the Back Bay side of the B. B. and C. I. Railway between the Wodehouse Bridge and the Back Bay Swimming Bath. The Royal Navy, 1st Norfolk Regiment, 21st Bombay Infantry, 2nd Bombay Grenadiers and Royal Artillery from Colaba took part in the parade, which drew a large number of spectators. About one hundred men of the Royal Navy, under the command of Captain Phillips, Senior Naval Officer, assisted by Lieutenant Back, R.N., Lieutenant Brown, R.N., and Lieutenant Courtis, R.N., arrived on the scene shortly before the time fixed for the parade with the field guns, and the appearance of the men presented a picturesque sight. They were joined by 203 Rank and File of the 21st Bombay Infantry, under the command of Major Cahusac, and the 1st Norfolk Regiment, consisting of 390 Rank and File. Then followed from Colaba the 2nd Bombay Grenadiers, consisting of 275 Rank and File, under the command of Major Leslie, and the Royal Artillery, under the command of Major Priestley, R.A., and they entered the field with bands playing and colours flying. Shortly after 6-30 a.m. the Royal Navy took up the position to the right facing the sea, next in order being the 1st Norfolk Regiment, 21st Bombay Infantry, 2nd Bombay Grenadiers, and the Royal Artillery. A little before 7 o'clock the Royal Navy fired the Imperial salute of 31 guns, while the troops fired the *feu de joie*, the bands playing the National Anthem. The troops then gave the Royal salute, and at the instance of the Commanding Officer gave three hearty cheers for Her Majesty the Queen-Empress. The troops then marched to their respective quarters. An Imperial salute of 31 guns was fired from the Saluting Battery. The Royal Standard was hoisted at the Saluting Battery, and all the Government vessels in harbour as well as the merchants' steamers were decorated with flags and bunting. The Royal Indian Marine flagstaff and the Yacht Club flagstaff were flying standards and flags. The day was observed as a general holiday, and all the Government offices and most of the private offices and institutions were closed.

PRAYER-MEETINGS IN CHURCHES.

Special services of thanksgiving were held last evening in St. Thomas' Cathedral in honour of the 81st anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. A commemoration service was conducted last evening by Bishop Thoburn at the Bowen Memorial Church. Commemoration and thanksgiving services were also held in the Scottish Church, on the Esplanade, at the Colaba Church, and other churches.

PARSEE PRAYER-MEETINGS.

Prayer-meetings were held, "jassan" ceremonies performed, and sermons were preached, yesterday, in the principal Parsi fire-temples.

THE WADIA FIRE-TEMPLE.

Yesterday morning, at eight o'clock, Dastur Darab Pesbotun Sanjana held a thanksgiving service at the Wadia Fire Temple in the presence of a large congregation. According to the custom a *jasan* ceremony was first performed, in which the learned head priest was assisted by about thirty priests. At the conclusion of the ceremony Dastur Darab said a prayer in Zend, of which the following is a translation:—"I bless with my prayer the Queen-Empress, who follows the right ways dictated by God, the Resplendent and Victorious, beseeching that superior strength, superior victory and greater glory, as well as permanence of dominion, growth of dominion, and still longer reign and life may be granted to her. O Queen-Empress! Live Thou long, and ever hear the blessings of Thy subjects so long as Thou livest; support Thy obedient and loyal peoples; annihilate from Thy kingdom all evils and all evil-doers. O, holy Ahuramazda, we earnestly pray that the Empress of India, who rules over us with a good mind and with wisdom, may long reign over us." He then recited a prayer in Gujerati, of which the following is the translation: "O Holy Ahuramazda, Creator of the Universe and bestower of all pious wishes! With a lowly heartfelt devotion we praise Thy Divine Goodness for the countless miraculous blessings with which Thy loving care preserves Thy admirable creation. Thy merciful Providence has prolonged to 81st year the age of Her Most Gracious Majesty, our beloved Queen-Empress, over us. Thy humble Zoroastrian Worshippers! O Holy Creator! we implore Thee of Thy Bounty to bestow upon our illustrious Sovereign many years of happy life resplendent with glory; bless with fruitful peace and teem in plenty Her Majesty's family and the various people of the vast dominions Thou hast confided to her sway: let the perfect justice of Rashne Rast illustrate Her Majesty's rule: grant unto her resistless victory over enemies like unto that of Verethraghana and crown her with the consummate bliss of Ram-Khastra! O Holy God! in Thy great mercy grant that the rule of our Queen-Empress, under which our old Zoroastrian faith and grandeur have revived, may still be prolonged, and that we may thereby be able to render ourselves worthy of Immortal Home, propagating amongst Thy servants the wisdom of piety revealed through the precepts of Thy Sacred Religion! Amen."

Dastur Darab then preached a sermon, in the course of which he contrasted the condition of the Zoroastrians in the reign of Jaderana, the Hindu king, who flourished in the 8th century, with the present blessed and most progressive state of his co-religionists under the just and merciful reign of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India. The learned Dastur urged his hearers to appreciate the great boon of religious freedom conferred upon them by the present rulers. It was one of the principal commandments of their prophet Zoroaster that every Zoroastrian subject under a righteous sovereign must every day pray for the health, victory and welfare of his sovereign, a commandment which found place exclusively in this religion. Pure loyalty had been taught to the Zoroastrians from time immemorial, and the Zoroastrians of to-day were as loyal to their rulers as their forefathers. In conclusion, he exhorted them to stand by the side of their sovereign, observe the laws of the land, and assist the Government in their efforts to promote the moral and material welfare of Her Majesty's subjects. The congregation then dispersed.

THE ANJUMAN FIRE-TEMPLE.

Dastur Kaikhosru Jamaspjee Jamaspassana presided at the ceremonies performed at the Anjuman or the new Bhagarsath Fire-temple, situated at Chandanwady. At 9 o'clock, yesterday morning, a vast congregation of Parsees, priests and laymen assembled on the premises of the fire-temple. At first, the assembly, under the guidance of Dastur Kaikhosru, stood facing the *sanctum* on the groundfloor, where the sacred fire is kept perpetually burning, and offered the *nias* prayers. They afterwards went to the large hall on the upper floor, where large quantities of fruits, flowers, and sherbut were arranged in trays and cups, and where the Dastur performed the "jasson" or grand thanksgiving ceremony, with the assistance of the Deputy Dastur, Dastur Menocher, and a large number of other priests. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Dastur Kaikhosru preached an instructive sermon suited to the occasion. He said that this was the 81st year of Her Majesty, and it behoved them to invoke blessings on such a noble Queen, and to wish that she may pass succeeding years equally healthy and prosperous. The Indians had been enjoying peace, tranquillity, and security under her benign reign. As a woman, as a mother, and as a sovereign, she furnished an exemplar, to which they could scarcely find a parallel, and which furnished a lesson to them all. For such a noble Queen, their united prayers must go up high and deep. According to the Parsee scriptures, such a benign reign as Queen Victoria's might almost be said to be a Divine reign. Money presents were distributed to the Parsee priests, and the proceedings terminated.

THE RANJEE AGIARY.

An "agiary" is a small fire-temple, and at that situated at Grant Road, and known as the Ranjee Agiary, a jusson or thanksgiving ceremony was performed yesterday under arrangements made by Mr. Sorabjee Eduljee Ranjee.

Similar thanksgiving services were held at Dadysett's Fire Temple in Agiary Lane, and Banaji's Fire Temple at Thakordwar, at the former in the morning and the latter in the afternoon. Both the meetings were well attended.

MR. RUSTOMJEE PATEL'S FIRE-TEMPLE AT THANA.

The Parsee residents of Thana were not behind their co-religionists in the presidency town in celebrating the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. A jusson ceromony was performed at 6 o'clock yesterday morning in Mr. Rustomjee Patel's fire-temple, in which all the Parsee residents of Thana joined. The ceremony was ably performed by Dastur Nasarwanjee Cursetjee Panthakee, assisted by other priests. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Khan Bahadur Bomanjee Byramjee Patel addressed the assembly, invoking blessings upon Her Majesty and the Royal Family, and reminding them of the benefits they derived under her benign reign, the like of which the natives of India could never expect to have. The assembly, with one voice, echoed Mr. Patel's sentiments.

THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUES.

A thanksgiving service was held by the Jewish community at the David Sassoon Synagogue, "the Shield of David," Byculla, yesterday, in honour of the 81st anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. Prayers were also offered for the long life of Her Majesty and the Royal Family. A special prayer, composed for the occasion in Hebrew and English by Mr. Joseph Ezekiel, was offered, invoking Divine blessings upon Her Majesty and the Royal Family.

Special service was also held yesterday evening in the Jacob Sassoon Fort Synagogue in honour of the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. A prayer of thanksgiving composed in Hebrew by the Rev. N. E. E. Zechariah, Rabbi and minister, was offered on the occasion. The following passages occur in the prayer:—"In her (the Queen) we see the realisation of Israel's sweet singer as regards the limit of human life. We pray that her reign may ever be peaceful. Exalt her on account of her beneficence and kindness, her justice and liberty extended to us and to all the people, without distinction of caste and creed, living and enjoying her protection. Prolong her life and grant her life in which she may enjoy perfect health, both in body and in mind, and enjoy the blessings of peace and tranquillity. To all she hath been as a mother that loveth her children, and she hath felt distress in the misery or grief of her subjects."

The Bene-Israel congregation met in the New Synagogue at Don Tad Street and joined their fellow-countrymen in offering their thankgiving to Providence in commemoration of the 81st birthday of the Queen-Empress. In the midst of their daily morning prayers, the congregation offered special prayers invoking blessings upon the Empress-Queen, Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal family, and prayers were also offered for the prosperity of the British rule, and blessings were invoked upon Lord Curzon and Lord Sandhurst, the representatives of British Government in India. The Revd. Haham Abraham A. Sherabi, the Minister of the synagogue, conducted the service. At the conclusion of the above prayers, the Revd. Minister preached a sermon on loyalty, and exhorted his audience to observe and follow the dictates of the ancient Rabbis as embodied in Talmudic and Robbinical literature.

HINDU PRAYER-MEETINGS.

Several prayer-meetings were held by the Hindus yesterday in honour of Her Majesty's 81st birthday. At the Luxmi Narayen Hindu Temple, at Gowalia Tank, Mr. Gordhandas Gokuldas Tejpal carried out the arrangements for a thanksgiving service and prayers for Her Majesty's long life and happiness. The Aryan Social Union held a prayer meeting at the Muljee Jaitha Cotton Market yesterday afternoon, when, after the thanksgiving service, addresses were delivered on the beneficent character of Her Majesty's reign. Thanksgiving prayers for the long life of Her Majesty were offered yesterday afternoon by the Hindus living temporarily in the Daivadnya Health Camps Nos. 1 and 2, Kennedy Sea Face, near the Hindu Gymkhana. Last evening another Hindu meeting was held at Mahadav Bang Temple, where prayers were offered for Her Majesty's long life and prosperity. In the evening a public meeting of the Hindu community was held near the Queen's Statue, on the Esplanade, which was garlanded. The enclosure near the statue was illuminated, and chairs were placed in a portion of the road in front of the statue, which was railed off for the purpose. Marathi and Gujerati songs, composed for the occasion, were sung.

THE ARYAN SOCIAL UNION.

Under the auspices of the Aryan Social Union, a prayer-meeting was held at the Mulji Jetha Market Hall, yesterday, at 3-30 p.m. in celebration of the Queen's 81st birthday. There was a large attendance, and Mr. N. M. Samarath was the principal speaker at the meeting. He said he was happy to have to address a gathering animated by a high sense of duty. He felt sure that everyone present there that afternoon detested that spurious loyalty, which began and ended with a desire to secure fat berths or comfortable appointments. He at the same time asked them to hate more that dangerous distemper which advocated a resort to lawlessness as a remedy against political wrongs. To plead for mercy being shown to juvenile perpetrators of political crime might not be open to serious objection, but to exalt such offenders into the region of martyrdom was surely not compatible with peaceful and constitutional methods of progress and reform. While hoping that better counsels would henceforth prevail in that respect, they on their part must not fail to discharge their plain duty, which was to show by their actions that those who preached or accepted the doctrine of physical force as a means to redress or relief differed radically from them in their political creed, that they had no sympathy for such men or with their utterances. The personality of Empress Victoria had a fascination for them all. There was around it a halo of purity and sanctity, of womanly sympathy and parental love for her subjects, which appealed strongly to the imagination and religious instincts of the people of India. It was their bounden duty to raise up their hands in earnest prayer to the Almighty to shower fresh blessings upon her, and through her upon the inhabitants of her extensive dominion.

AT THE QUEEN'S STATUE.

A public meeting of the Hindus was held last evening near the Queen's Statue, Esplanade, Mr. Tribhowandas Mungaldas Nathubhai being in the chair. The meeting was a crowded and enthusiastic one, about three thousand persons, mostly Hindus, taking part in the proceedings. A portion of the road surrounding the enclosure of the statue was closed in for the purpose of holding the meeting, the place being prettily decorated with flags and illuminated with multi-coloured lamps. The chairmain opened the proceedings by ascending the steps of the statue and garlanding it with a beautiful wreath of flowers, amidst the cheering of the spectators.

The chairman, in addressing the meeting, said: Gentlemen,—I esteem it a very high privilege that I should be asked to preside and address you a few words on this auspicious occasion, being the 81st birthday of our august sovereign the Queen-Empress of India. As a humble duty on behalf of the Hindu community I beg to offer respectful congratulations to our beloved mother Queen-Empress Victoria and wish her many more happy returns of the day. You know, gentlemen, the 24th of May we have long been in the habit of regarding as a day of peace and rejoicing—a day which future generations I am sure will cherish with a fond memory no less than our selves by perhaps aptly styling it the "Victoria day." It gives rise in the mind of every educated man, be he a Native or a European subject, to a long association of pleasing ideas, that of the long line of monarchs who have sat on the British throne, none has been more alive to the call of duty, while the purity and simplicity of her domestic life have placed her at the head of the womanhood of all the world and held out a moral for all times to come. The reason why Queen Victoria is the first lady of the time is because of what she has been and is and not because of her high birth; in other words, gentlemen, it is character and the wise use of her opportunities that make her life and reign the brightest spot in the pages of history, unparalleled not only in the history of the British Empire, but in that of the whole world for achievements and manifold blessings conferred upon her subjects; and this may be largely accounted for by the fact that it has been an age of peace. Whether one takes account of the increase of the population or the extent of the Empire, which has gone on constantly growing, or of the expansion of commerce, which has doubled and tripled itself during the last few years, or of the changes on sea or land, the growth of knowledge and the amelioration of the conditions of life of all classes of people by science and humanity or of the even-handed administration of justice by the breathing of a new spirit into the laws, one cannot help regarding it as an age of wonder, an age, as I said already, without a parallel in history. Nor can I refrain from an allusion to that spirit of religious toleration, not to mention the security of person and property, which has been the glory of the British rule and pre-eminently of the Victorian era. It has been said to be a maxim of the British Constitution that the Sovereign reigns but does not govern. The Queen has shown how a sovereign can reign in a very real sense. Naturally endowed with a firm will, a marvellous staying power, aided by an accumulated experience and with a sublime expression of herself, she has worked in hearty co-operation with her illustrious Prime Ministers, all of them truly patriotic and disinterested men, and moved only for the good of her "people and her poor." I say, gentlemen, the reign of Queen Victoria will ever be associated with all that is great and noble in the history of the British Empire, with the broadening of the basis of the constitution, the extension of the Empire far and wide, the peaceful triumph of arts and sciences, justice and mercy, so that in the words of our late Poet Laureate, the children of our children will say: "She wrought her people lasting good." We all fervently pray to God that He in His mercy may shower his choicest blessings on our beloved mother Queen-Empress Victoria and may she be long spared to govern the greatest empire in the world.

The Hon'ble Dr. Bhalchandra said: Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I feel very grateful to you all for doing me the high honour by selecting me to address this assembly on such an important and auspicious occasion. We are met here this evening to celebrate in fitting terms the 81st birthday of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. Gentlemen, we must be deeply thankful to merciful Providence for bringing about this connection between England and India, and for committing us to the care of the august Sovereign who has always been solicitous about the happiness of the millions of her subjects, from the highest to the lowest, and it is but meet that we should offer prayers on this occasion for her Majesty's long life. During her Majesty's long and glorious reign many events of great importance have occurred, and a great portion of the world in general, and India in particular, have reaped the benefits of the fruitful reign, such as under no previous rule could ever have been dreamt of. Education has made considerable progress and is permeating to the masses. Science in all its branches has made such rapid strides as to have achieved wonders in all departments of arts and industry, and has contributed in a large measure to the comfort and happiness of man. Trade and commerce have developed a hundredfold throughout the world generally, and specially between India and other countries. But above all the greatest blessings which we enjoy under her Majesty's benign rule, and which are cherished by the people as their great bulwarks, are religious toleration, liberty of speech, and even-handed justice. In that great Magna Charta of India, I mean the Proclamation of 1858, her Majesty assured her Indian subjects in these eloquent terms: "Firmly relying ourselves on the truth of Christianity, and acknowledging with gratitude the solace of religion, we disclaim alike the right and the desire to impose our convictions on any of our subjects. We declare it to be our royal will and pleasure that none be in anywise favoured, none molested or disquieted, by reason of their religious faith or observances, but that 'all shall alike enjoy the equal and impartial protection of the law;' and we do strictly charge and enjoin all those who may be in authority under us that they abstain from all interference with the religious belief or worship of any of our subjects, on pain of our highest displeasure." Her Majesty ends the proclamation with these memorable words: "In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude, our best reward." Dr. Welldon, the Bishop Metropolitan, has struck the proper note in inviting all classes and creeds in India to unite in offering prayers to the Almighty on her Majesty the Queen-Empress' 81st birthday, and it is a matter for congratulation that all the communities of India have heartily responded to the call. After the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty's reign some sad and deplorable events occurred, which cast a temporary gloom over the horizon of this Presidency, and led some to suspect the loyalty of the Hindus. But the course of events has nearly cleared the horizon, and with that we hope the lurking suspicion has vanished. It is needless for me to assert that the Hindus as a whole nation are loyal to the core and will yield the palm to none in their fealty to our beloved Queen-Empress. Of late an idea was gaining ground that education made the natives disloyal. Very happily, however, this idea has been thoroughly exploded by no less authorities than H. E. Lord Curzon, the august representative of her Majesty in India, and Sir Antony McDonell, the sympathetic Lieut.-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, in their now famous speeches on the occasion of the last University Convocations. I simply reiterate on this occasion that the spread of education has made the Hindus more loyal and keenly alive to the innumerable blessings enjoyed by her Majesty's subjects. I emphatically assert that it is not mere lip loyalty, but that it is deep and sincere loyalty. In passing, I may mention that it is a highly educated and scientific Hindu gentleman, who, after every effort on the part of others had failed, succeeded in removing the stains on the marble statue of her Majesty which stands before us. Moreover, I may here remind this assembly that this statue is a gift to this city from a Hindu Maharaja, the late Khanderao Gaikwar, as a token of his unswerving loyalty to the British Crown. We, Hindus, from time immemorial have been accustomed to hold our sovereigns in deep veneration because of the belief prevalent amongst us that they are endowed with divinity (राजा प्रत्यक्ष देवता), and some of our best kings have even been deified. Gentlemen, it is a matter for regret that we have not the good fortune to offer our heartfelt congratulations and express our gratitude and genuine feelings of loyalty to her Most Gracious Majesty "in person," but we must content ourselves with offering the same to her Majesty's statue in front of us. Gentlemen, we may not live long enough to see the day when our future poets will sing the praises of her Majesty on the occasion of Victoria Jayanti. Let us all hope and pray to Almighty God to spare her Majesty for many years yet to rule over the empire throughout which *pax Britannica* reigns supreme and over which the sun never sets. Let us devoutly hope we shall have many more such auspicious occasions in future to celebrate her Majesty's birthday and let us all unite in singing the chorus, "God Save the Queen."

On the motion of Mr. Dwarkadas Dharamsy, seconded by Rao Bahadur Ellapa Balaram, it was resolved to request the chairman to send a congratulatory telegram to Her Most Gracious Majesty in the name of the Hindu community of Bombay felicitating Her Majesty on her birthday and wishing her many happy returns of the day.

Some Marathi and Gujerati songs specially composed for the occasion were then sung, and the meeting dispersed after the singing of the National Anthem.

THE LUXMI NARAYEN TEMPLE.

The 81st birthday of her Majesty the Queen-Empress was celebrated by the Hindus with great eclat at Mr. Goculdas Tejpal Shri Laxmi Narayen Temple, on the Gowalia Tank Road. In the morning there was a grand "puja" (worship) at the temple, where "anushthana" ceremony was performed by a large number of Brahmins. "Dakshna" was liberally distributed to them, besides being feasted in the afternoon. At 5 p.m. a special "Hari Kirtan" was preached by the well-known reciter, Keshawbawa. The invited guests arrived at the appointed time, and were cordially received by Mr. Goculdas. By 6 o'clock there was a very large gathering at the temple. The preacher very ably brought out the manifold virtues of her Majesty as wife, mother and sovereign, citing analogies of celebrated personages from old Sanskrit times and cleverly sustaining the interest of the assembly for three hours. At 8 p.m. the "Kirtan" was concluded with cheers and sincere wishes for the long life and prosperity of the Queen-Empress. The whole premises, which are situated at the foot of the Cumballa Hill, overlooking the Gowalia Tank, were lighted up with electric lamps, and presented a lovely appearence. The illuminations attracted a large crowd of spectators.

MAHOMEDAN PRAYER-MEETINGS.

In pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Anjuman-i-Islam of Bombay, the Mutawallis and Pesh Imams of all the musques in Bombay had been requested to offer prayers for the long life and prosperity

on Her Majesty the Queen-Empress' eighty-first birthday. The whole of the community, therefore, held prayer-meetings in various mosques throughout the city, yesterday, and offered prayers for Her Majesty's long life and prosperity. In the evening a grand display of illuminations was made at the Kolsa Mohola and Nakhoda Streets. The former place was brilliantly illuminated and decorated with flags and festoons of flowers by Sirdar Cassum Mitha, who defrayed all the expenses. He also illuminated the portion of Grant Road commencing from Sir J. J. Hospital and also Pydownie. In honour of thesegeneralrejoicings he sent a sum of money to the authorities to build a ward in his name at the Maratha Hospital. The Nakhoda Street was illuminated at the expense of Nakhoda Mahomedali Rogay. Yesterday being the anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress' eighty-first birthday, Khan Bahadur Hakim Mahomed Dayam celebrated the event in the Dayamia Mosque at Nagpada in the presence of a large Mahomedan congregation. Mr. Dayam, in a short speech, described the good qualities of Her Majesty as a ruler of this vast British Empire. He said Her Majesty rules over a larger number of Mahomedan subjects than any non-Moslem monarch on earth. However, the Indian Empire occupies the first attention of the Queen. With a view to give proper importance to this Indian Empire, the Queen has attached an Indian Secretary to her staff. They ought to be proud that that Indian Secretary is a Musalman. There is no doubt that Her Majesty's regard for her Musalman subject is indeed great. As they were prevented by a wide expanse of oceans from rendering personal homage to Her Majesty, they must unite here in offering prayers for her long life and prosperity. Mr. Dayam distributed coins and clothing among the poor of his community. Sweetmeat was then distributed among all present. After thanksgiving prayers for the long life of Her Majesty, three cheers for the Kaiser-i-Hind brought the proceedings to a termination. The Dayamia Mosque was beautifully illuminated for the occasion.

THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB.

The Bombay Cosmopolitan Club Rooms, in Girgaum, were tastefully decorated with festoons of flowers, and the building, with its tall and graceful terraces, specially lit up with gas in the evening.

Yesterday being the anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress' birthday, all the Government as well as the merchants' vessels were decorated with banners and flags, from stern to stern; the flagstaff of R. I. M. Dockyard and Yacht Club flagstaff were also decorated. At noon the Torpedo Catcher Plassy fired a Royal Salute of 31 guns in honour of the occasion.

The town of Bandora was not behind hand in keeping up with solemnity and also exuberance Her Majesty's birthday. The principal residents, of all nationalities, observed the day as a festival and a day of prayer. In the evening the Municipal Offices were tastefully illuminated and a band discoursed sweet music at intervals.

OTHER CELEBRATIONS IN INDIA.

THE PARADE AT POONA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, MAY 24.

The Queen's birthday parade was well attended by spectators and was a great success. The troops present numbered more than usual. At 6-30 a.m. Major-General Burnett, Commanding the station, rode on to the parade ground, accompanied by his staff. The troops were drawn up in two lines facing west, extending across the parade ground, with the S. Battery, R. H. A., formed up in action on right and F. Battery formed up on the left. A salute of 31 guns was fired with "feu de joie" in between, after which the troops, led by the General, gave three lusty cheers for the Queen-Empress. The men then formed up and marched past in the following order: Band, First Lancers, S. Battery, R. H. A., under Colonel Stuart, Commanding Artillery, 1st, 16th and 29th Field Batteries, 1st Lancers; then followed, under the command of Colonel Welch, the Shropshires, 3rd Light Infantry, and 28th Pioneers; next came the Royal Scots under Col. Bell, the 14th Bombay Infantry, 16th Bombay Infantry, and Sappers and Miners. The march past was carried out with great precision and the parade ended.

The Durbar in honour of the Queen's birthday was held, this afternoon, at the Council Hall. Mr. Aston, Judge, Sessions Court, and Agent for the Sirdars of the Deccan, presided. He dwelt upon the influence her Majesty held over the minds of the subjects of her vast dominions, and said it would be idle to pretend that pleasure-recalling historic associations of the Deccan capital were not marked by indications of an influenee which already worked the destruction of young lives, capable, but for this baneful influence of honorable and useful achievement. The law must be enforced, and satisfaction in the vindication of the law was a wholesome sentiment that did not exclude sorrow that young minds should be corrupted by influences from which it was somebody's duty to guard them. He had sufficient confidence in the Sardars and gentlemen present, as the natural leaders, to inculcate respect and obedience to law, and to trust that they viewed with disfavour the abstract theory opposed to law and order. The usual ceremonies brought the durbar to a close.

Thanksgiving services were held at St. Mary's Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, Parsee fire-temples, at Aga Moochool Shah's residence, and several other places.

SIMLA.

SIMLA, MAY 24.

The Queen's birthday service at Christ Church, to-day, was a striking function. The Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Commander-in-Chief, and all officials were present, as also was Lady Curzon. There was a great gathering of other ladies and non-officials. The singing of the National Anthem concluded the proceedings.

LUCKNOW.

LUCKNOW, MAY 24.

The birthday parade was held at 6-30, this morning, on the parade ground, in the presence of a large number of spectators, and under the command of Colonel Prickett, acting Commandant of the station.

The Cavalry Brigade, under the command of Major Oswald, comprised B. Battery, R. H. A., the 3rd Hussars, and the 1st Bengal Lancers.

The Infantry Brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Lomax, consisted of the 1st Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, the 1st Cameronians, the 41st Field Battery, the Royal Artillery, and the 8th Rajputs. A salute of 31 guns having been fired, the troops marched past, and were then dismissed.

The day is being observed as a holiday.

In accordance with the Metropolitan's suggestion, a Thanksgiving Service, participated in by members of all Christian denominations, was held at 8 o'clock, at Christ Church. The first lesson was read by the Rev. Nelson, Presbyterian Chaplain, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Menzies, Civil Chaplain.

SECUNDERABAD.

SECUNDERABAD, MAY 24.

The troops in garrison paraded this morning in honour of the Queen's birthday, and at Bolarum, the Hyderabad Contingent did likewise, while in the outskirt of Hyderabad city the Imperial Service Troops held their parade separately. Nearly 5,000 of all ranks appeared on the Secunderabad parade. The three parades were successfully carried out.

The Anglican Churches held special thanksgiving services this evening, when the soldiers formed the major portion of the congregation, both at Trimulgherry and at St. John's, in Secunderabad. The preachers were eloquent in their references to her Majesty's reign.

Some parts of the native town were illuminated this evening.

AHMEDABAD.

(FROM CORRESPONDENTS.)

AHMEDABAD, MAY 24.

The Brahma Kshtraya community assembled at R. B. Trikamlal Dinanath, Dewan of Dharampore's bungalow to offer prayers to the Almighty on the occasion of her Majesty's 81st birthday. There was a large gathering; the premises were decorated with flags, buntings and evergreens, and in the centre on a raised dais her Majesty's portrait, surrounded with garlands, was placed. There was "Hari-kirtan" and light refreshments. Songs specially composed were sung, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

Before this a procession, with her Majesty's portrait in a chair, carried by college students, was formed. Great enthusiasm prevailed, and there were many demonstrations of loyalty. A number of boys, arranged in lines, recited verses in praise of her Majesty's benign rule. The procession passed through Khadia and returned to R. B. Trikamlal's bungalow.

The Visnagara Nagars assembled in their Hatkeshwar Temple to offer prayers to the Almighty on the occasion of her Majesty's eighty-first birthday. Rao Bahadur Chunilal Kaveshwar presided. Specially composed songs were sung.

INDORE.

INDORE, MAY 24.

The Parsee community here assembled, this morning, at Mr. Hormusjee Manekji Bhamgara's invitation, to offer prayers of thanksgiving to the Almighty on the Queen-Empress of India having commenced her 81st year, and wishing her Majesty all the blessings of a long life. Refreshments were also provided by Mr. Bhamgara. The fire temple was illuminated in the evening.

AJMERE.

AJMERE, MAY 24.

In celebration of the eightieth birthday of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India the Parsee community here offered prayers at their fire temple, the at 8 o'clock, this morning, for her Majesty's long life and prosperity. All dined together in the evening.

NANDOD.

NANDOD, MAY 24.

The Queen-Empress' birthday was celebrated at Nandod with great eclat. His Highness Maharana Shri Chhatriasinhji held a grand review in the morning of the Risala paltan and the Police forces of the State. The Artillery fired a Royal Salute, the other troops firing the *feu de joie*. His Highness proposed three cheers for her Majesty, which were enthusiastically responded to by the troops and the gentlemen present.

An adjournment was then made to the new Chhatravilas Palace, where his Highness entertained his guests to luncheon. The toast of her Majesty's health was proposed in most felicitous and loyal terms by his Highness, whose health was then cordially proposed.

The day was observed as a general holiday.

NAVSARI.

NAVSARI, MAY 24.

At the invitation of Seth Byramjee Seervai, J. P. and Corporation member, a large number of Mobeds and Behedins assembled in the fire-temple to attend a *Jasan* ceremony, in honour of the Queen-Empress' birthday. The Dasturjisaheb was also present, notwithstanding ill-health. The ceremony commenced at 9 a.m., and was performed by Dastur Framjee Kekobadjee. At the conclusion, Mr. Ervadsaheb Edaljee Antia praised the Queen's justice and mercy towards her home and foreign subjects, and the personal interest her Majesty takes, notwithstanding her old age. Mr. Antia next said they should all thank God for Seth Byramjee's escape from the Palghur Railway accident, and praised his loyal expensive duty. He then referred to the Navsari Parsees' loyalty towards the Queen, as also towards the Gaekwar of Baroda. He next read two prayers in Avesta language, specially prepared by him, in which every possible blessing was invoked for her Majesty. The whole meeting joined in the prayer. This over, silver coins were distributed among the Mobeds at the expense of Seth Byramjee.

SURAT.

SURAT, MAY 24.

At the invitation of Sirdar Davar Walji Khursedji Modiji, there was a large gathering of Parsis at the Dadabhai Mody Fire-temple, to-day, to offer thanks and prayers for her Majesty's long life and prosperity. Owing to the illness of the old Modiji, his son opened the proceedings in a neat speech, and after the religious function had been gone through there were also enthusiastic speeches made by the high priest, Dastoorji Rustomji, and Professor Kanga, of St. Xavier's College. Hearty cheers for the Queen-Empress and thanks to the venerable head of the community, Sardar Davar Edalji, and the usual distribution of largesse to the priests and poor closed the proceedings.

Similar enthusiastic meetings of Hindus and Mahomedans took place in different parts of the city to wish long life and prosperity to the Queen-Empress.

NADIAD.

NADIAD, MAY 24.

In honour of her Majesty the Queen-Empress birthday, Mr. Kabraji, the popular Collector of Kaira held an afternoon party at his camp at Nadiad to-day. Refreshments suitable for the different communities were provided. All the gentry of the town took part in the rejoicings, and expressed their best wishes for long life to her Majesty. The camp was richly decorated with flags, buntings, and evergreens, and all arrangements were perfect, and included a band and native music. The guests left the place with cheers to her Majesty, and thanks to the Collector.

MHOW.

MHOW, MAY 24.

A thanksgiving jusson was held at the Parsi Fire-temple, to-day in honour of her Gracious Majesty the Queen's birthday. The Agiary was well lighted up, and amidst a big concourse of Parsis the learned Dustoor Khoorshedji Jamsedji gave the benediction, wishing her Majesty long life and happiness, in which the Anjuman heartily joined. After thanking the Dustoorji for his trouble, the Anjuman dispersed. This "jusson" was due to the initiative of the head Dustoor of Malwa, Dr. Hoshand Jamasp, who ordered them to be held at his Deccan, Malwa, and Rajputana centres.

RAJKOT.

RAJKOT, MAY. 24.

The Rajkot Parsi Zoroastrians held a solemn thanksgiving jassan ceremony, this evening, at their temple, under the presidentship of Mr. Cooverji Coyaji. The assemblage was large. After the recitation of prayers, according to ordinances of the Zoroastrian faith, an eloquent address suitable to the grand occasion was delivered by Mr. Cooverji Coyaji, enumerating the noble virtues of the Queen-Empress of India, under whose benign rule all the populations of all castes, colours, and creeds enjoy complete religious freedom. Their life and liberty, he said, were safe from all molestation, and happiness and prosperity reign supreme throughout the empire, on which the sun never sets, and which has attained the zenith of its glory during her Majesty's long and glorious reign. The address concluded with a fervent prayer for the health, happiness, and prosperity of her Majesty and for the happy continuance of the British raj, in which the entire assemblage enthusiastically joined. The meeting dispersed after cordial cheers for her Majesty and the British raj.

THE TRAIN-WRECKING NEAR PALGHUR.

FURTHER particulars from Palghur in regard to the derailment of the up-Wadhwan train near that station confirm the report about the arrest of several culprits. The statements made by the men before the railway police show that the motive underlying this crime was the ambition of a workman to get the "muccadumship" of a gang of labourers working on a section of the line. It appears that one Fakir Motti was the muccadum of the gang employed on the section of the line where the derailment took place and one Kalia Kelga wanted to get his place. With a view to gaining his end, the latter took his brother Namia into confidence, and with the assistance of this man and of a third person, named Pandia, he succeeded in removing the fish-plates. The accused are to be charged before the Magistrate at Dahanu.

GENERAL FRED GRANT authorises the announcement of the engagement of his daughter Julia to Prince Michael Cantacuzene, of the Russian Imperial Guard. Miss Grant, who is a grand-daughter of General Grant, is considered to be one of the handsomest girls in America.

INCLUDING the 20,000,000 dollars indemnity now paid to Spain in respect of the Phillipines, the war with Spain has cost the United States 275,000,000 dollars, and, from all causes, 6,190 lives, or 2 1-4 per cent. of the troops engaged, as against 6 4-5 per cent. of deaths upon the average of the troops employed during the first year of the Civil War.

THE MONSOON IN COLOMBO.

THE *Times of Ceylon* of May 19 reports:—The monsoon is being ushered in with the usual heavy rain-storms frequently accompanied by thunder and lightning, though with somewhat less wind than is usual, and it has brought about a very considerable diminution in the temperature that has been found so oppressive of late, the records during the last two days being from eight to ten degrees less than those at the beginning of the week. Rain commenced again yesterday at 5-30 p. m., and continued with little intermission throughout the night, and at 4-45 to-day.

From the Meteorological Department we have been supplied with figures, showing the quantity of rain falling at various periods between half-past five yesterday afternoon and half-past nine this morning. For the first quarter of an hour—until 5-45 p.m.—the register showed that the comparatively small amount of 0·08 inches had fallen. There was then a very slight rainfall until 11-15 p.m. Between the latter hour and midnight there was a fall of 0·37 inches. Slight showers from midnight till 2-15 a.m. accounted for only 0·09 inches, but from 2-15 a.m. to 3-45 a.m. there was a heavy downpour, which was registered as 1·60 inches. The rain then ceased until about 5-45 a.m., and from that time until 6-5 a.m., a fall of 0·62 inches was recorded. Then there was a slight drizzle up to 7-15 a.m., the register showing that the total had been increased by only 0·30 inches. But from 7-15 a.m. to 9-30 a.m., 1·72 inches were registered, making a total rainfall between 5-30 p.m. and 9-30 a.m. of 5·28 inches. This gauge was taken at a height of 40 feet from the ground. Another register, taken on the ground, for the 24 hours ending at 9-30 this morning, recorded a fall of 6·97 inches. Yesterday, the total rainfall from the 1st January to date was 24·45 inches as against a mean rainfall of 27·81 inches over the same period for the last 29 years. Now the total rainfall has risen to 31·42 inches against the mean average of 28·48 inches. This year the rainfall nearest approaching 5·28 inches was on the 14th of this month, when 3·75 in. were registered. At the commencement of the monsoon last year, on the 10th April, 5·07 in. of rain fell. The highest rainfall in one day yet recorded is 11·90 in., which fell on May 4th-5th, 1876.

Notwithstanding the wind and heavy downpour of rain, the interruption of telegraphic communication was very slight, the only casualty reported to the Superintendent of Telegraphs up to noon, to-day, being the falling, early this morning, of a cocoanut tree across the wires, a short distance beyond Mount Lavinia. The interruption, however, was of a short duration, the wires being blocked at 5 a.m., and communication resumed at 8-30. As to the telephone wires in Colombo, there have been to-day, as was only to be expected, a great number of contacts of minor importance; bells ringing in all directions, but no answers being forthcoming. This ringing of bells is a source of considerable annoyance in some cases. One effect of the weather was that there was a great rush for the tramway service this morning, and on both lines the cars into the Fort were crammed full. The weather has resulted in no casualties in harbour, though work has been almost at a standstill owing to the incessant rain. Thanks to the absence of strong wind, the water is comparatively smooth. The Reclamation Works at Kochikade are practically pools of water, and work in connection with the various improvements has practically been suspended. The appearance of the Circular, Cinnamon Gardens, this morning, was more like the Colombo lake than anything else, it being one sheet of water, the drains being so full that they could not carry off any more water. The natives crossing it had to wade in many places up to their knees, whilst the small native huts by the pond on the Ladies' Golf Links were flooded, and the unfortunate inhabitants were pottering about ankle-deep, fishing out their little worldly goods. We fancy that there was hardly a roof in Colombo last night that did not leak; and one of our correspondents informs us that every article of a toilet set was used to catch the drippings from the roof in his house!

THE RISING OF THE LAKE.

One of the most important results of the continuous downpour since last night has been that the lake has risen appreciably, and all the islets and dry places in different parts of it have been covered. One of the effects of the rising of the Colombo Lake has been to damage the works in connection with the reclamation of that corner of the lake at the junction of Vauxhall Street with Union Place. This part of the lake, which was always more or less in a shallow and insanitary condition, it was decided by the Municipal Council should be reclaimed, and markets or boutiques erected on the land thus reclaimed. The work was taken in hand by the Superintendent of Works about the beginning of the year, but several causes hindered much progress being made. The portion which was partly reclaimed has been covered with water; but no sooner the rain ceases the water will be run out and a fresh start made with the operations. The heavy rain has not done much damage to buildings and houses in the city, probably because this is the first heavy downpour we have had this year; but it is feared that if the wet weather continues, there will be the usual concomitants of monsoonish weather—houses falling down, and walls of old buildings crumbling. The fields alongside the Skinner's Road are full of water; and in Skinner's Roads South there were about six inches of water on the road for some 30 yards or so. The Kelani river is rising gradually, and the low-lying roads in its vicinity—Ferguson's Road, Madampitiya Road, and Sadawatta road—will probably be inundated in a day or two. The roads in the town have not suffered much, except for a few wash-aways here and there, but at Saunders Lane, between Norris Road and Cramer's Lane, the road has sunk a few inches for some distance and wheeled traffic is well nigh impracticable. This road was cut up recently for the introduction of water-pipes to convey water from the Lake to the Tramway Co.'s Works, and was badly damaged in consequence. One effect of heavy rain usually is the inevitable flooding of the Avisawella road; but on making enquiries we learn that, though the Kelani river is rising, and the fields about Grandpass are all under water, the Avisawella road itself is not yet flooded. The morning coach arrived an hour late; but this was owing to the muddy condition of the road. The driver reports that there has been heavy rain in Ratnapura, and at the rate it has been pouring since yesterday—it is probable the road will be flooded to-morrow, when no doubt we shall hear more wailing about the Kelani Valley Railway! It is satisfactory to learn that, despite the incessant rain, there have been no wash-aways or slips on our railway lines, and that the trains are keeping fairly good time, with the exception of the seaside trains which were somewhat behind time to-day.

NOVEL ROAD RACE AT YOKOHAMA.

AN interesting and somewhat novel bicycle race took place between a foreign and Japanese resident of Yokohama, in the persons of Mr. J.L.O. Eyton, aged 53 years and weighing 175 lbs. and Mr. K. J. Kawata, aged 24, and weighing 106 lbs. Thus it will be seen that weight and age should have told in favour of the Japanese, but superior stamina, grit and skill were evidently the heritage of Mr. Eyton, who carries something in his necktie as a guerdon of his prowess. The course was from Sengenshita (Kanazawa) to Kodzu, distance about 32 miles. A start was made shortly after 9 a.m. Owing, however, to the recent heavy rains the road as far as Fujisawa about 12 miles, was in such a wretched state that it took two hours to accomplish the distance. Two-thirds of this was done on foot. Both parties slipped several times and Mr. Eyton lost his boots in the mud and had to complete the distance in his stockings, with only a couple of handkerchiefs tied to the pedals to soften their angularities. Mr. Kawata was the first to reach the long hill after leaving Hodagawa, but was passed soon afterwards by his redoubtable opponent at Fujisawa, where the leader was ten minutes to the good. From Fujisawa to Kodzu (19 miles), the road was good and Mr. Eyton covered this in 1 hour 20 minutes, which was fast time considering the great fatigue he had undergone in reaching Fujisawa. Mr. Kawata gave up near Chigasaku, and finished by train. Considerable interest was taken in the event, and the friends of both parties waited for them at different stations on the road.

COLCHESTER has been selected by the War Office as the most suitable spot for what will be the most extensive camp in Great Britain. A large sum of money is being expended on new barracks, which will accommodate three more regiments. A new rifle range, the finest in the Kingdom, has been acquired, and is ready for use, but a difficulty has arisen, and in all probability the range will stand idle this summer. The military authorities insist on closing a lane behind the butts. The Lexden Rural Council objects, and at its meeting held the other day endorsed its original demand for three new roads of considerable length as compensation. It is not likely that the War Office will comply, and probably the solution of the deadlock will be a Bill in Parliament for compulsory acquisition of the lane.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot, 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

AGUINALDO: A CHARACTER SKETCH.

IN the "Singapore Free Press," is a character sketch of Emilio Aguinaldo by Howard W. Bray. He says:—

'He is a born leader of men, like Washington, Napoleon, El Cid, Saladin, Cæsar, Mahomet, Sakymuna, and the Founder of Christendom; one of those who have always risen from the people at the critical stage of their respective country's history. He has accomplished what few have accomplished, and will go down to history as one of the word's heroes—every inch a man.'

What is most puzzling to the profane reader is the utter stupidity of any newspaper with any pretence to seriousness admitting into its columns such rubbishy nonsense—blasphemous and utterly untrue, every line of it. Of Aguinaldo, the following has appeared as a recent estimate of him:—'Aguinaldo—a deified ignorant Indian, with a swollen head, but empty for all practical purposes. Timidity verging on cowardice is his chief characteristic. He never fought a battle in his life, and is afraid to leave his room much for fear of being "knifed" by some kind countryman whom he has wronged.'

Not a great while ago this native was an assistant godown man in a Manila warehouse, earning $8 or $10 a month pay. A short time at this work and he entered the service of the 'Padre Cura,' of Bacoor, a Spanish priest, as headman (and bottle washer!), and when he had sufficiently captivated the Cura's confidence, and felt himself a *necessity*, the former probably found it convenient to put him into a position of trust in the neighbouring village of 'Cavite Viejo,' where against the remonstrances of the villagers who did not fancy a Cura's nominee under any circumstances, Aguinaldo was made Gobernadercilio (Petty Governor) as a 'creature' of the Cura, to carry out his orders and do his dirty work generally. When he had sufficiently roused the villagers against his rule, he having no doubt feathered his nest nicely during his tenure of office, he set about putting himself right with the natives by stirring up strife against the priests all round—out of gratitude probably to his protector, the Cura of Bacoor, for giving him a 'leg up' and placing him in power, where he could avail of his opportunity to plot mischief against the white man in general and the priest in particular!

He conceived the idea of rising against the Government for the expulsion of the friars first, and afterwards for the extermination of the Spaniards. To this end he occupied himself in getting together such arms as he could get hold of, making ammunition out of scrap iron and any bits of metal he could find about the arsenal and shipyard at Canacao. A small powder factory was put up, and from small beginnings he got together a few hundred guns—wooden, and metal of a primitive description, and therefore practically valueless to cope with modern arms. Only a diseased imagination could conceive the idea of fighting with such weapons.

At length, however, thinking himself ready, and, as he thought, certain of the revolt of the native Spanish soldiers and Guardia Civil in his favour, he ordered the movement of 29th August, 1896, when he planned the taking of Manilla by way of Sampaloc. On that day, early in the morning, a few hundred Indians appeared with a rush at Santa mesa, the most ragged ruffians that could well be immagined—shoeless, the little clothing they had in rags, and armed with bolos, bamboos and anything they could lay hands on. Aguinaldo reckoned without his host, and the Guardia Civil instead of siding with him turned upon his ungainly followers, slaughtering them right and left, and no further attempt was made to 'take Manila.'

The heart of the rebellion was in Cavite, where the Spaniard could only act upon the defensive until reinforcements should reach them from Spain, and their native troops were not to be trusted. When reinforcements did arrive the Spaniards promtly crushed the movement, and Aguinaldo made peace by selling himself and his 'Army' for money, the history of the transaction being so well known that repetition is unnecessary.

This 'inspired deified bullet proof' Indian got his vindicator and character sketcher to interpret for him in the Singapore arrangement, of which all have heard, and now both the Singapore U. S. Consul and Aguinaldo accuse the interpreter of misinterpreting between the two as to what they really said. This is how the discrepancy between the 'two versions' is explained by the Americans.

Any success the 'rebel army' may have had against the Spaniards in the fresh campaign is due first to encouragement from the Americans, who 'armed, fed and encouraged them to revolt' (Denby in the February *Forum*), and in their fight with the Americans the credit of any successes is due to others the fire-eaters Mabini, Luna, Pio del Pilar Buencamino, Montenegro and a few others of the same stamp of questionable reputation but clever organizers and authors of the furious articles that have from time to time appeared in the reble papers—lawyers and medicos by profession, most of them. Aguinaldo had also by his side about 400 Spaniards—deserters, of whom Celso Mayor is a principal officer, and their handiwork is plainly visible in the excellently constructed trenches around Malolos, Calumpt and other places, which, in the possession of white men, need never have surrendered. Yet what did Aguinaldo and his natives do but *run* as soon as the enemy came to close quarters. There are divers opinions as to the plan of campaign pursued by the Americans, the general opinion being that if they had gone to work to capture the Manila Railway as vigorously as they did in the case of the waterworks the backbone of the movement would have been broken in a week. They should have taken the railway at any cost as then they would have had control of the provinces that supplied the sinews of war and food to the rebels—who by this time would probably have been starved out in the mountains. All are anxious to see the end of a struggle that at the outset 'was to last a fortnight,' but a year is gone by and the rains upon us—the only thing in sight—chaos? Let us hope not. The Americans will have to buck up if we are to have a better Government than the defunct Spanish regime, which indifferent though it may have been was an improvement on the present military despotism. We have gone from the frying pan into the fire. The Customhouse is a veritable curse, and ought to be abolished.

TORTURE IN JAPAN.

NOTWITHSTANDING the many improvements introduced into the law since the Restoration, it is to be regretted, says the *Jiji*, that both the police and the public procurators persist in treating suspects as if they were already convicted. The public are continually subjected to very rough treatment by the police, who are in the habit of arresting innocent persons in spite of all protests, on the ground merely that their behaviour is suspicious. Such unlawful arrests are clearly forbidden by the Code of Criminal Procedure, but the police take advantage of the public ignorance of the law, and continue to make arrests. It constantly happens that persons are arrested by the method of *shodaku-doko*, which presumes the consent of the person arrested, and as a rule this procedure is connived at by the judicial officers. Moreover, the police are even encouraged—sometimes under the instructions of judicial officers—to adopt measures practically synonymous with torture, in order to extort "confessions" of guilt from accused persons. This practice is entirely indefensible since it is expressly forbidden by law. Nevertheless it is the habit of the police to send accused persons to the public procurator's office after they have thus obtained a satisfactory confession at the examination at the police station, while those who persist in their refusal to state what the police wish are at once subjected to horrible torture the cruelty of which is far beyond the imagination. The torture as a rule lasts until the unhappy prisoner recognises the expediency of satisfying the police for the time being by making false statements, or "confessions" of guilt, of which he is perfectly innocent, simply to obtain relief from the agony of the torture. He is then sent to the public procurator's office as a real offender, where no statements except those which coincide with the report of the police will be listened to either by the judges or the public procurators, contrary to the expectation of the accused, who is, after a brief enquiry, punished upon the false confession extorted at the police station. The *Jiji* cites the case of the arrest of a maid-servant in Tokyo a few weeks ago, on suspicions of stealing a watch belonging to her employer, and strongly urges the police to discontinue this barbarous habit, which is evidently a survival of the feudal idea. And wholly at variance with the repeated official statements made that torture has been abolished.

AMERICAN LUNCHES AND TEAS.

AMERICAN lunches and American teas are among the newest things in London. An American lunch is a lunch without men. Dull, some women will say, but they really are great fun. Women can admire one another's cloths, talk freely and unreservedly, and altogether enjoy oneself. Too much of it might be wearisome, but one realises that the sot of man who is free to go to lunches might as well be absent, for one feels he wouldn't be there if he had been invited to something better. Lady Oxford, a charming American woman, who was Miss Corbin, of New York, is very successful with her lunches. On Sundays she gives mixed ones, but on week-days the women vote that to have the lovely house, which is furnished in the French style to themselves is decidedly enjoyable. American teas are what middleclass circles term high tea. Men turn up their noses at these functions, but most women think them delightful. The hour is about six, which enables one to start for the theatre in good time. The food is hot cakes of all sorts eggs done in different ways, fish balls, jam, toast, fried hominy, and so forth, with plenty of hot tea.

THE WEEK'S PARLIAMENT.

TRANSVAAL CONCESSIONS AND THE CONVENTION.

IN the House of Commons, on Friday, April 28, Mr. Chamberlain informed Sir C. Cameron that a communication had been made to the President of the Transvaal declaring the dynamite concession to be a breach of the Convention, and a reply had been received. Papers would shortly be laid before Parliament.

THE CAPE GARRISON.

MR. Chamberlain, answering Mr. Bayley, said the Cape Government did not ask her Majesty's Government for any increase in the military forces in South Africa, but the intention to increase the garrison was communicated to them, and they were willing to provide temporary barrack accommodation.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

Replying to Mr. Hogan, Mr. Chamberlain said her Majesty's Government had made proposals to the Governments of Canada and Australia with regard to the construction of the Pacific cable, but no final agreement had been made. The statements on this subject which had appeared in the Press did not exactly represent the proposals which had been made.

AFRICAN RAILWAYS.

On Monday, May 1, Mr. John Ellis asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what mileage of the railway in respect of which an imperial guarantee had been asked for by the British South Africa Company lay within the territory subject to their control, what mileage in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and what (if any) within Cape Colony; whether the Cape Government had been asked to contribute a portion of the guarantee; and, in that case, what portion; whether the reply of the Imperial Government was conditional on that of the Cape Government; and whether the railway from Beira to Salisbury with an extension to Bulawayo would shortly be opened, with the result of diverting a large portion of traffic and receipts from the railway for which a guarantee had been asked.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: With reference to paragraph I, the Bechuanaland Railway Company's existing line lies for about eighty miles within Southern Rhodesia, for about 394 miles within the Bechuanaland Protectorate; and for about 111 miles within the Cape Colony; and, with reference to paragraph 4, the Beira-Salisbury line at present stops at Salisbury, and I have not heard of any present intention of extending it to Bulawayo. Papers will shortly be laid on the table which will contain an answer to paragraphs 2 and 3; but I may say, in anticipation of them, that we were unable to accept the proposals made to us by Mr. Rhodes; and he has been unable to accept the offer wich we made in return. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. John Ellis asked whether the right hon. gentleman's attention had been called to the statement in a letter in the money article in the *Times* of April 26 that the debentures of the Mashonaland Railway had been refused a quotation on the Stock Exchange in cosequence of the British South Africa Company not having performed the covenants entered into when they were issued.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: When the papers to which I have already referred are presented, the hon. member will, I think, see that this matter, whatever may be the facts, does not bear on the proposal her Majesty's Government have had before them.

THE PACIFIC CABLE SCHEME.

In answer to Mr. Webster, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said: A decision on this matter has been arrived at. Papers will be at once laid on the table explaining the terms on which her Majesty's Government have offered to contribute to the cost of the scheme. (Hear, hear.)

ENGLAND AND THE VATICAN.

Mr. S. Smith asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether confidential negotiations had been proceeding between the Government and the Catholic authorities in London and the Catholic authorities in Rome with a view to the appointment with recognised diplomatic position and powers of duly accredited Ministers to and from the Holy See.

Mr. Balfour: Sir, the answer is in the negative.

CYPRUS MAIL SERVICE.

Replying to Mr. Orr-Ewing, Mr. Chamberlain said: The Cyprus Government have made a provisional contract subject to the approval of her Majesty's Government with the Austrian Lloyd Company for the mail service between Cyprus and Egypt to commence on June 1; as the contract is now under the consideration of the Treasury it would not be convenient to state its terms at present.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Mr. Bryn Roberts asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether Sir Alfred Milner, her Majesty's Commissioner in South Africa, had received and transmitted to her Majesty's Government a petition by Uitlanders in the Transvaal, complaining that they were not accorded the full rights of citizenship in the Transvaal; and whether there was any precedent for receiving a petition on such a subject from residents in a State which in its interna affairs was independent of this country.

Mr. Chamberlain: Her Majesty's High Commissioner of South Africa has received and transmitted to her Majesty's Government a petition to the Queen from over 21,000 British subjects in the Transvaal complaining of alleged oppression and unjust treatment, and, among other things, of exclusion from the franchise. I am not aware of any precedent for such a petition—(Opposition cheers)—nor am I aware of any precedent for the state of circumstances which has led to its presentation—(Ministerial cheers)—but I apprehend that there can be no doubt as to the propriety of receiving the petition, having regard to the position which this country occupies in relation to the South African Republic. (Ministerial cheers.)

Replying to Mr Dillon, Mr Chamberlain said that the High Commissioner had carefully examined the petition and considered that the general genuineness of the signatures to it might be vouched for (Hear, hear.)

THE FINANCE BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this Bill, Sir H. Fowler moved that it be read a second time that day six months. The right hon. gentleman had given notice of the following amendment:—"This House, while recognising the necessity of providing for the expenditure of the current financial year, is of opinion that it is not expedient to reduce permanently the annual charge for the National Debt." This amendment, he explained, he had decided not to move, because it would narrow the scope of the debate. At the outset he expressed the fear with regard to the altered wine duties that the effect would be to diminish the consumption and so to reduce the trade with France and with our Colonies. Turning to the proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer with respect to the Sinking Fund, he said that the effect of the right hon. gentleman's plan would be to reduce the fixed amount of the Sinking Fund from 25,000,000*l.* to 23,000,000*l.*, and that was the operation which he challenged. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had claimed that the operation was justified by precedent, and that he was doing what Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Childers had done. He denied that the precedents referred to were such as to justify the action of the right hon. gentlemen, and he explained that he did not hold the doctrine that the Sinking Fund was never to be suspended. What he objected to was permanent reduction. Dealing with the question of the Savings Banks investments and the purchase of Consols by the Treasury at a very heavy premium, he argued that the time had arrived when some safer method should be adopted, and asked why the Chancellor of the Exchequer, instead of buying Consols at a premium of 10*l.*, did not turn his attention to Indian securities. He urged the Government to appoint a Select Committee to consider the whole question of the Savings Banks investments. As to the National Debt, it was a tax upon the industry of the country, and it was the duty of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to get rid of it as far as he could. In the circumstances, he hoped the House would record its disapproval of the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which would weaken our strongest financial bulwarks.

Mr. Haldane contended that the Treasury ought not to continue buying Consols at a premium, but ought to invest the Savings Banks funds in other safe securities, and he pointed out that by enlarging the scope of trust investments a good deal could be done to reduce the price of Consols.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, referring first to the additional wine duties, stated that any other taxation would have interfered to a greater extent with the trade and industry of the country. Dealing next with the amendment which Sir H. Fowler had placed upon the notice paper, he showed that it was of much too sweeping a character. If the right hon. gentleman really meant what the amendment implied, it was a case of financial purism gone absolutely mad. Explaining his reasons for his proposal with regard to the Debt, he said that they ought not to incur loss in the future by adding largely to the amount set aside annually for the reduction of the Debt at a time when the Consol market was narrowing considerably. If they did not reduce the fixed Debt charge, it would not be very long before it would be practically impossible for the Government to purchase the Consols which they required. There was no doubt that the position of the Savings Banks funds was one of considerable difficulty. The question of the Savings Banks was, however, so important that it deserved exhaustive inquiry, which should include the area of investment the rate of interest and the limit of deposits. It was his intention accordingly to communicate with members who took an interest in the subject, with a view to ascertaining in what way and by whom such an inquiry could best be conducted. With regard to the fixed Debt charge, he still differed absolutely from the view of Sir H. Fowler, who thought it should be immutable. The money set aside for the payment of the Debt was surplus revenue raised by taxation, and to propose fresh taxation in order that the fixed amount might be paid would be unreasonable, and would result in an agitation against the Fund. Replying to the argument that his proposal ought not to have been made in a time of unexampled prosperity, he reminded the House that this was also a time of unexampled expenditure.

Mr. Harwood disapproved of any diminution of effort to pay off the Debt, and regretted the imposition of fresh taxation injurious to trade. Mr. Cohen regretted that for the second time a Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer should have found it necessary to reduce the amount for the reduction of the Debt. The debate was continued by Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Hubbard, and Mr. Moulton, who complained that the Chancellor of the Exchequer's arguments were likely to tempt his successors to disregard the principle that the Debt should be paid off in a reasonable time; and, after some remarks from Mr. Stuart Wortley and Mr. Mendl, the debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Courtney.

On the report of the Education Vote, Sir J. Gorst, who was frequently cheered, replying to the observations made regarding himself on Friday night by Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, explained his position, and declared that his views and those of the Lord President the Duke of Devonshire, were entirely in accord upon all important educational questions. With regard to the charge that the Education Department had been overruled several times during his tenure of office by the Government, he contended that there was nothing strange in that. The Lord President's experience was much greater than his, and as long as the noble Duke, who was the embodiment of political honour, was able to retain office it would be, he maintained, a piece of presumption on his part to resign. He denied emphatically that he had ever cast ridicule either upon the department or its head, and asserted that as long as he retained the confidence of his chief and colleagues he should not be influenced by what the leader of the Opposition and his supporters might say about him.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman stated that his quarrel was not so much with the right hon. gentleman, whose great ability he admired, as with the Government, who allowed the subject of national education to be made the sport of the right hon. gentleman's light fancy. He adhered to the view that the affairs of a great department had never before been conducted as the right hon. gentleman conducted them, and that he should be transferred to another position.

Mr. Balfour observed that it was not within the province of the Opposition to dictate to the Government who were to fill the offices at their disposal.

Mr. Ellis associated himself with all that Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman had said.

The report of the Vote was then agreed to, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to one o'clock.

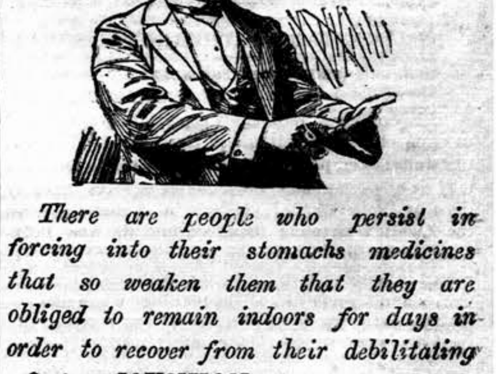
BRITISH COMMERCE IN THE EAST.

Mr. Ascroft asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether his attention had been called to the suggestions made by Acting-Consul Massy, in his diplomatic and Consular report on the trade of Erzerum, for the purpose of furthering British commerce in Asiatic Turkey and the Levant and whether the recommendations in such report that British merchants should join in starting a reference agency in Constantinople for the compilation and distribution of suitable catalogues containing comparative weights, measures, and prices, the drafting of letters in the vernacular, the instruction of commercial travellers as to locality and requirements, the exhibition of patterns, and the collection of bad debts had been, or would be, communicated to the chambers of commerce in the United Kingdom; and whether, in face of the fact that Acting-Consul Massy reported that such a cause would result in a large accession of business being brought to this country, he would take the necessary steps to give publicity to the same, and promise the assistance of the Government if such an agency was formed.

Mr. Brodrick: Acting-Consul Massy's report has been sent to all the chambers of commerce in the United Kingdom and to various other public institutions. It would be premature to promise Government assistance to the scheme suggested until it is seen whether British merchants and manufacturers are disposed to take any initiative in such a direction.

BRUTAL ATTACK ON A LADY MISSIONARY.

THE Wesleyan Missionary Society have recently received a telegram from Pretoria announcing the death on Tuesday of Mrs. Applebe, wife of the Rev. F. Applebe, of Heidelurg, one of the society's most prominent missionaries in South Africa. The message added that Mrs. Applebe was brutally attacked while on her way to church on Friday evening, but it is as yet unknown in London whether the outrage was the work of whites or natives. The deceased lady, who died on her fortieth birthday, was the daughter of Mr. John Holder, J. P., of Folkeston, and had been fourteen years in the Transvaal with her husband. Mr. and Mrs. Applebe were home in England on leave of absence in 1896, and returned in the following year. In addition to Heidelburg, where they had charge of the English Church, Mr. and Mrs. Applebe had resided for some years in Mafeking and Johannesburg. The deceased lady, it is added, was always held in the highest esteem by both the white and the native population.



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MUNYON'S HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES

PURELY PERSONAL.

It is unfortunately too true that love does not always prompt the marriage of Royalties; too often they have to sacrifice themselves on altar of political necessities. Everybody will remember how Princess Clothilde—sister of the present King of Italy, was forced by her own father into marriage with the late Prince Napoleon—a man for whom she had no love, a fanatical free-thinker; while she was, and is, a devotee; and a gentleman who brought to her pure life the stains of years of adventures. The engagement announced last week between the Duchess Jutta of Mecklenburg Strelitz and the Hereditary Prince of Montenegro is one of pure affection It is not a brilliant match for the young lady, of course, for the Principality is a small affair; but, on the other hand, the Prince has the same dazzling beauty as the rest of his very handsome family, and the bride is a very lovely girl—a perfect blonde, with beautiful complexion and hair, and large, soft blue eyes.

It is stated that, after all, the future husband of the young Queen of Holland is not finally chosen, and that the young lady has imitated her sisters of humbler degree by showing to her admirers all the caprices and vacillations which distinguish the maid before she has finally made up her mind to be conquered. Prince William of Wied has always been supposed to be practically chosen, but it is now said that the young fair-haired, strong-willed, and wilful lady is inclined to turn her attention to another young Prince who is said to have been making sheep's eyes at her for a long time. The new aspirant is Prince Eugene of Sweden. These Swedish Royalties are all adventurous, curious, unrestrained, unconventional beings. The Queen, as everybody knows, is practically a Salvation lass; and the Crown Prince is almost ready to go down the slums at the head of a band and preach the gospel. Another prince, as is well known, renounced all his royal privileges, in order to marry a young maid of honour with whom he had fallen in love.

Since Dr. Joseph Parker's "God damn the Sultan," his name has been on many lips for the first time. It is not perhaps generally known that the pastor of the City Temple began life in very humble circumstances. It is said that he decided to adopt a ministerial career in consequence of the success which attended his preaching to out-of-door congregations, mainly composed of Northumberland miners. His education was conducted privately, and finished at the London University. He has himself told his congregation of to-day that he took his first "copy" to the proprietor of a London periodical, and left it upon the counter with great misgivings, hurrying out of the shop, and not daring to look round for fear of being called back, and roundly abused for his audacity.

One of the most interesting portraits in the autobiography of Mrs. Oliphant is of Mrs. Duncon Stewart, who used to be a famous hostess years ago. Mrs. Stewart "had known almost everybody in her day. She had at one time seen much of Disraeli—almost at one time running the risk of having her head turned by him." It is a curious thing in the history of Disraeli that though at one time he was a brilliantly handsome as well as witty and entertaining man, he never sought to make conquests among the fair. As is so often the case with handsome men, he was indifferent to what most men would have prized above all things the world can give; and besides, ambition was his mistress. When Disraeli was Chancellor of the Exchequer he received a letter full of adoration from a young lady of singular attractions of high position, and married—as Disraeli himself was. Disraeli scarcely took the trouble to read the letter, and never answered it.

One of the most prominent personalties on the variety stage of to-day is Mr. Eugene Stratton, the "Dandy Coloured Coon" of renown. It is to his art and influence that we owe the omnipotence of the coon in all forms of lyric entertainment, for before his advent we only knew the "nigger" as a singer of ordinary ballads at the St. James's Hall, and as the purveyor of a certain full-flavoured and antique form of fun upon the sands of the seashore. Mr. Stratton has changed all that; his coon-type is now the recognised article. The big buttons frilled shirt-fronts, and striped linen of the old-time negro have vanished, together with the horse-laugh that was held to be so necessary an adjunct. Every coon nowadays dresses in the Stratton style, only varied in the case of lady performers by the turning-up of one leg of the trouser-ing of which Miss May Yohe was the original patentee,

Mr. Stratton hails from Buffalo, U.S.A., and is of German extraction, but he has been in England since 1883, has married an English wife (a daughter of Mr. "Pony" Moore, of Moore and Burgess fame), and may now be counted as English of the English. Much of his huge store of natural humour may be traced to the unconscious influence of the companions of his boyhood, concerning whom his fund of anecdots is both extensive and varied. He learned to dance on the bleaching stones of a tannery, and he achieved his famous "whistle" by imitating a butcher-boy, who was an expert in that ear-splitting accomplishment. His love of sport took root full early, for his boyish cronies and he made it a point to always possess the champion fighting-cock of the neighbourhood. Being seized of a likely bird, they exploited it against every local rival, travelling from place to place on freight trains, without going through the form of paying fares. They waited until a heavily-laden train slackened speed at an incline, and then mounted, dropping off again at a suitable point. Occasionally, their bird was beaten, and it then behoved the owner of the victor to look to his treasure-or it would one day be unaccountably missing. And then, by way of curious coincidence, "the boys" would be in possession of another champion.

Mr. Forster Brown, the eminent mining engineer, himself a leading South Wales coalowner, read a highly interesting paper early this week before the Society of Arts on the question of our coal supplies, Professor Jevons started the alarm several years ago, but when it was authoritatively announced that our coal measures would last for 300 years more we laid this flattering unction to our souls and ceased to concern ourselves. Mr. Forster Brown, however, holds that although this estimate may be perfectly true, we are rapidly exhausting the cream of our supplies. The increase of the output in the last generation has been enormous, and the cost per ton has steadily risen. "I think it will be a reasonable supposition," he says, "that a moderate cost will prevail for another fifty years, at the end of which period physical causes will begin to operate, which will have the effect of steadily increasing the cost until it reaches such a figure as to render profitable manufacturing operations impossible."

Mr. Piry, the "father" of the Chinese Customs Service, who, when shipwrecked early in life on the Korean coast, was put into a cage and sent overland to Peking to the Chinese Emperor, was not the only eminent European who has "travelled in a cage" in the Celestial Empire. Lord Loch, the late Governor of the Cape of Good Hope and High Commissioner for South Africa, was secretary to the Earl of Elgin's special mission to China in 1857. He was imprisoned for some months, subjected to great hardships and indignities, and carried from place to place in a cage as a gazing stock for the Chinese populace.

Mr. David Chalmers, of Redhall, whose death has occurred in his eightieth year at his residence, Redhall House, Slateford, was a nephew of the famous Dr. Thomas Chalmers, one of the leaders and founders of the Free Church of Scotland. Mr. Chalmers was widely known in connection with the papermaking industry. His leisure was spent in antiquarian research, and he was a Fellow of the Antiquarian Society and of the Royal Society. In politics Mr. Chalmers was a strong Conservative, but he took little part in public affairs.

The recent marriage of Lord Rosebery's daughter (says the excellent first number of the *Cambridge Magazine*) recalls the fact that the ever-youthful appearance of the father of the bride led to his being proctorised during his last visit to Cambridge. Lord Rosebery was walking near the post office, after attending a political meeting, when he was accosted by the Proctor and his men, who mistook the ex-Prime Minister for an undergrad, minus cap and gown. His lordship was greatly amused—not to say flattered—by the attention paid him.

The succession to the dukedom of Beaufort comes to the Marquis of Worcester. The Marquis, as has been said, has taken the Badminton Hunt in charge for some years, and in addition, has already obtained most of the possessions of his father. Soon after Sir William Harcourt passed his Death Duties Budget the Duke made over most of his possessions, so as to free his heir from some of the heavy burdens which otherwise would have fallen upon him. The Marquis was long supposed to be an obstinate and incurable bachelor; but in 1895 he married the young and beautiful widow of Baron Carlo de Tayll; and by her he has two daughters; but as yet no direct heir. The Lord Lieutenancy of Monmouth and a garter are left vacant by the death; both very coveted honours. Lord Tredegar or Lord Abergavenny is expected to get the Lord Lieutenancy, and the garter will go to either the Duke of Bedford or the Duke of Portland.

NOTICES.

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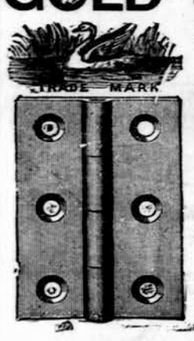

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IN HOT OR FOREIGN CLIMATES ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT' is INVALUABLE. It is the BEST and SIMPLEST preparation for regulating the action of the LIVER that has yet been discovered, and relieves the system of effete GOUTY, RHEUMATIC matter, the groundwork of FEVERS and other diseases, which, if retained, poisons the blood, and produces the most disastrous consequences. It allays nervous excitement, and restores the nervous system to its proper condition by NATURAL MEANS.

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6d., 1/-, 1/6, and 1-lb. 5/- Tins. 6d., 1/-, and 1/6 Pots.

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Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of ***Anæmia, Debility*** *and* ***Convalescence,*** *to* ***young women, children*** *and the* ***aged.*** *Invaluable in hot climates.* DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

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MARVELLOUS PREPARATION.

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Splendid Cleansing Preparation for the Hair.
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Allays the Irritation caused by Mosquito Bites.
Invigorating in Hot Climates. Cleans Plate and Jewellery.

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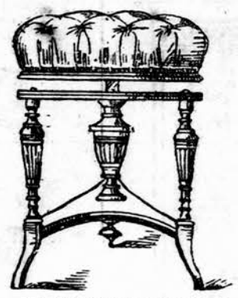

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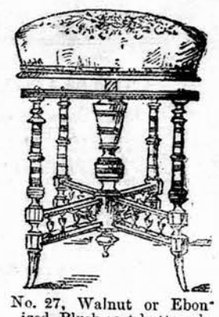

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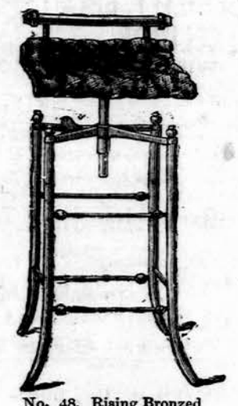

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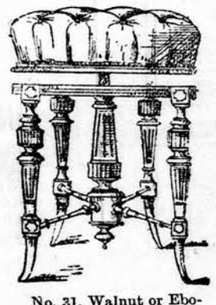
Brass, with Plush seat buttoned. Rs. 55.

No 21, Walnut or Ebonized, Plush buttoned seat. Rs. 35.



No. 31, Walnut or Ebonized, Plush buttoned seat. Rs. 40.

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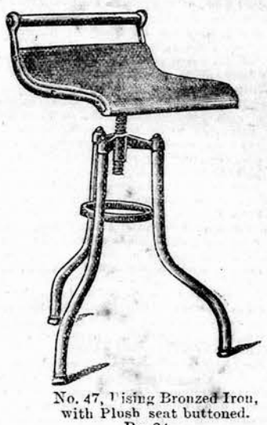

No. 47, Rising Bronzed Iron, with Plush seat buttoned. Rs. 24.
Brass, with Plush seat buttoned Rs. 34.

No. 46, Rising Bronzed Iron, with Plush seat buttoned. Rs. 28.
Brass, do. do. „ 38.

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Brass, do. do. „ 34.

No. 49, Rising Bronzed Iron, with Plush seat buttoned. Rs. 28.
Brass, do. do. „ 38.

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Perfect health for the skin and a complexion creamy and delicate as the **blush-rose** attends the habitual use of

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Grimault's Cigarettes render the respiration easier, cut short the paroxysms, and remove the feeling of tightness across the chest.

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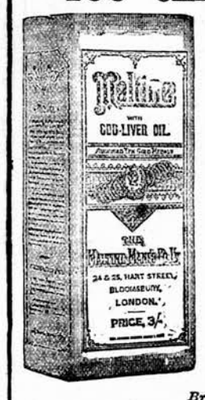

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THE VERY FINEST DRESSING.
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RESTORES THE HAIR.
PROMOTES THE GROWTH.
ARRESTS THE FALL.
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ALLAYS ALL IRRITATION.

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